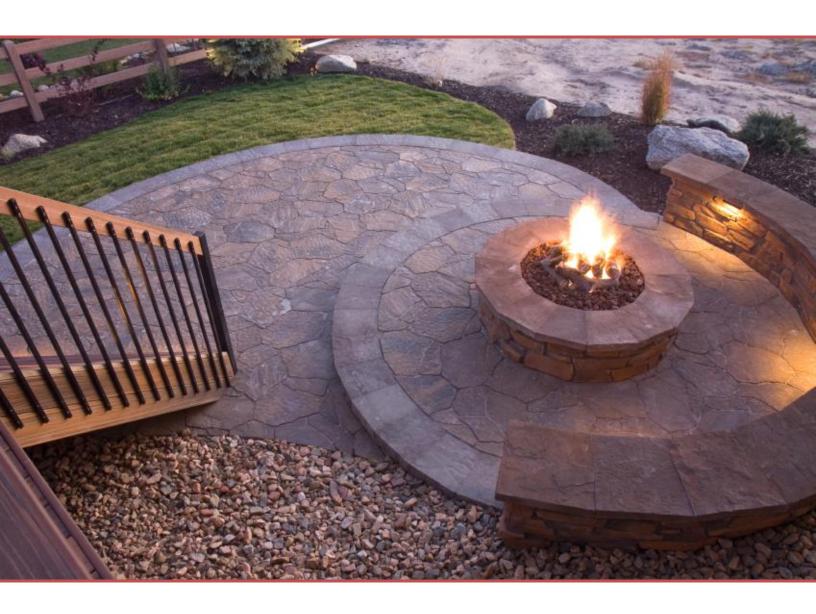
# How to Use Flagstone

# **Inside & Outside Your Home**

**Flagstone Design Ideas by** 





If you are considering integrating flagstone into your home- either in your landscape or your interior décor- you've made a smart choice.

There are endless benefits to using this gorgeous natural stone:

- Many design styles can be created with the rich colours & interesting natural variation
- ♦ Provides a natural, non-slip surface
- Some varieties don't fade as manufactured materials would
- ♦ It can last a lifetime
- ♦ Increases your home value- sometimes by up to 15%
- ♦ Very easy to maintain- sweeping for cleaning is usually all that's required
- It stands up well to the Canadian climate



Flagstone is a timeless material that can be used to create many different looks. At Grand River Stone, you can choose one or many of the different colour options below:



Bruce Grey Random



Colorado Red Random



Credit Valley Random



Muskoka Granite Random



Owen Sound Black Random



Owen Sound Buff Random



Peninsula Beige Random



Peninsula Oversized Random



Peninsula Blue Random



Sunset Gold Random



Tumbled Bluestone Random



Vermont Slate Random



Banas Bronte Square Cute



Banas Brown Square Cut



Banas Fossil Square Cut



Banas Grey Square Cut



Banas Imperial Black Square Cut



Banas Kota Black Square Cut



Banas Lavender Square Cut



Banas Slate Grey Square Cut



Banas Grey Square Cut



Credit Valley Square Cut



Owen Sound Black Square Cut



Owen Sound Buff Square Cut



Owen Sound Eramosa



Peninsula Square Cut Flagstone

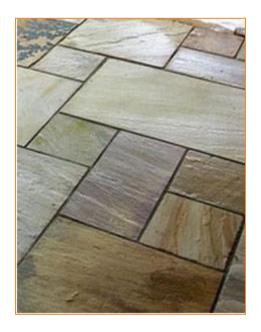
## **Interior Natural Flagstone Ideas**

Imagine a flooring material suitable for both formal and informal design styles that is durable, easy to maintain and looks much more expensive than its actual cost.

Flagstone is a natural stone material with all of these characteristics, but it is often overlooked when homeowners are planning their interiors.

Why?

Many of us think about landscaping when we consider natural stone, but it offers many benefits when it comes to interior surfaces. It is a unique and unexpected flooring choice that is eco-friendly & it will last for the life of your home.



# **Design Choices**

There are many different styles and colors of flagstone to choose from. The surface of flagstone can be flat and smooth for a clean look or textured and irregular for a more rustic appearance. As with all truly natural materials, each individual piece of stone is unique.

For interior flooring, a smoother texture is usually best, but rough & irregular stone looks great indoors surrounding a fireplace or as a veneer on a wall.

# **Interior Design Ideas**

#### Enhance a fireplace



Photo credit to <u>Arnold Masonry</u> under cc2.0

Using flagstone instead of the typical brick masonry around your fireplace will give an impressive and luxurious look. The variety of colours, textures, and styles available at Grand River Stone would make it easy to integrate into any design scheme.



Photo credit to <u>Arnold Masonry</u> under cc2.0

Tile & hardwood flooring are beautiful and traditional options for flooring, but you can find them in every house. Using flagstone as a flooring surface is a unique design statement. It can be very effective as an accent on a small entryway landing or foyer, or to carry throughout your home or place of business.



Photo credit to Old World Remodeling under cc2.0

Bring an elegant old world look to your kitchen by introducing natural stone as a backsplash material. At Grand River Natural Stone Ltd., we carry many kinds of stone veneer suitable for a backsplash. We have numerous styles and colours of ledge stone from very squared off modern to random and rustic. Square cut tiles would do nicely but also a more irregular coursing or flag would offer a rich and unique look. Whichever style you are after, we are sure to have something to please your eye. Square cut pieces would be the most straight forward to install.

# What are the Maintenance Requirements of Interior Flagstone?

Caring for your flagstone surface is easy.

It can be coated with a sealer after the initial installation. At Grand River Stone, we can provide sealers for either a matte or a shiny surface.

For routine maintenance and cleaning, it can be swept or vacuumed like any other floor. Light mopping with a natural, non-abrasive cleaner is the only other maintenance that is needed.



## **Flagstone Landscaping Ideas**

Natural stone patios are a popular addition to the backyard landscape of many homes. The nice thing about this material, is although these features are common, no two look the same due to natural variation and extensive design options.

A well designed patio is an enjoyable place to spend time outdoors.

Depending on the size of yours, it can be a place for outdoor dining, gathering around a fire pit with friends or just relaxing in a comfortable chair.

If you are beginning the design process to create your own special place, you may be looking for unique patio ideas- something to make your space stand out from the cookie-cutter lots on your street.



Here are some things to think through as you consider different natural stone patio designs.

#### **Choose Formal or Informal**

The first question is: what kind of space will this be? Is it a casual, organic looking area, a formal dining area or something in between? This will help you decide the size, shape and texture of the stone and how it is installed.

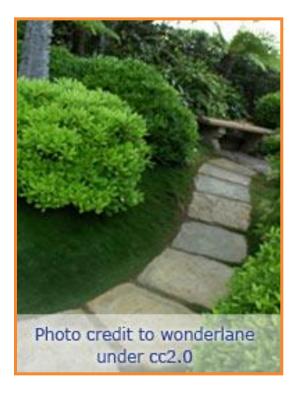
A formal patio works beautifully within a modern/contemporary landscape design, while an informal or organic style lends itself well to a French or cottage style space.

There is no right or wrong in the choice of style. Whatever you like is the right choice for you and keep in mind that mixing styles can also be striking. For instance, for a more eclectic look, a random flag area can be edged with a square cut border. If you need help deciding which style to go with, we can help you here at Grand River Natural Stone Ltd. We have a roster of contractors and designers from our area to choose from for assistance.



# **Design Ideas**

#### Organic Surface with greenery in joints



Though it can be hard to establish new plants in narrow spaces between stones, there are some species, such as creeping thyme and scotch moss that work reasonably well. The moss will need frequent watering and extra attention to get established. The thyme requires less attention, and does well in a dry, hot, sandy location.



Irregular flagstone works well for an informal surface.

Small gravel or decorative pebbles can be used between pavers. Gravel with an angular shape will compact more easily than round stones and is more likely to stay in place. An aggregate called high performance bedding, or HPB, is an excellent choice.



Photo credit to <u>Lynn</u> under cc2.0

Mosaics have been around for hundreds of years. Traditionally made with small stones or tiles, the technique has evolved over time. Large stones can be used to create an artistic focal point in your outdoor surfaces.

Your stone mosaic can be subtle or bold, small or large, and integrated into an overall design plan. Though a mosaic is perfect for a backyard patio, it could also be used as a feature in an entry, walkway or paved courtyard.





Square cut flagstone, in either a monochromatic design or with an assortment of complimentary colours, mortared with narrow joints can create a very formal surface to host an outdoor kitchen or dining room.

A square cut stone patio can also host a mosaic with organic shapes cut in, or bands of alternate colours to form a mat or rug like appearance. At Grand River Natural Stone Ltd., we have a large assortment of colours to choose from in both square cut and random flagstone.



# **Ready to Get Started?**

We have the largest selection of natural stone in Southwestern Ontario, and our knowledgeable staff is happy to provide guidance to anyone looking to take on a flagstone project.

Contact us with your questions now (on Facebook or by phone/email) or stop by our showroom.



































