

about our:

PERPETUAL COLLECTION – LIGHT WEIGHT CONCRETE FURNITURE AND DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES

This information is intended to help you and your customers better set the right expectations, sell & understand the handmade Perpetual Collection. Our 100% handmade light-weight concrete collection is made from multiple production phases. No two pieces will ever be exactly the same, this is why many of our customers seek out handmade merchandise.

Each accessory, accent or furniture item in this Collection has its own set of characteristics and markings that helps to make each piece unique. These individual characteristics are in part due to a combination of factors: raw natural materials combined with human effort (handmade).

THE RAW MATERIALS:

- * Portland Cement
- * Sand - a variety of colored sands depending upon the final color of the finished product we wish to achieve
- * Crushed granite
- * Natural, clean, spring fed water
- * A special coarse / fibrous grass used for reinforcement in the concrete. This grass is known as Ramie. Ramie is a plant that has been in use by civilizations dating back to the Pharaohs in Egypt. This cultivated plant is still in use today in textiles and in other forms of manufacturing including the production of Toyota's environmentally sound, Prius car. In our light-weight concrete products, Ramie is used for

stability and strength just like steel, the advantage is that it does not have the weight of steel. We do not use fiber board, fiberglass, resin or MDF or any other reinforcement in the manufacture of this product.

THE HUMAN FACTOR / HANDMADE MANUFACTURING PROCESS:

The core production phases that go into manufacturing this special blend of lightweight concrete are:

- * Hand mixing of the raw materials
- * Creating the moulds to allow us to create consistent shapes for the Perpetual Collection
- * Hand-pressing the concrete into moulds by hand
- * Allowing the concrete to air cure / dry naturally, no special heating or drying devices are used
- * Hand sanding the concrete to create a smooth texture
- * Applying pigments to create rich tones and colors to create a naturally pleasing finish to the eye
- * Hand waxing the furniture or accessory to create a smooth patina with a natural look that emphasizes the tones of the natural raw materials used in this Collection.

When we analyze the combination of raw, natural materials and the handmade manufacturing production process, this is as close to a zero CO₂ emission product, the result is a very green / natural product.

With handmade products, there should always be an expectation of finish variation, for example why would one piece of the Perpetual Collection be a darker color / tone than another....this can be due to a variety of reasons such as different raw materials e.g. where the mixing sand comes

from (one batch may vary to another batch due to where it was sourced), during the curing / drying phases humidity and acid rain can also impact final colors and finishes. Additionally, during the pigmentation process - (a phase of the production done by hand), this process requires the use of human physical pressure to be exerted by the workers applying the pigments - some workers will apply more pressure than others - heavy pressure results in more pigment being pushed into the pores of the natural materials and less pressure leaves less pigment in the pores of the natural materials. Further examples of this can be in the waxing stage, some workers will apply more wax than another worker further impacting the final color. Handmade products means that in producing these unique products, we expect a certain degree of variation, there is no ability to set a 100% standard on pigmentation, waxing etc regardless of the training each worker undergoes.

Be sure to read, understand and closely follow our Product Care instructions. Regular cleaning, sealing and protecting your Perpetual Collection furniture or vase will help you to insure that your product looks its best at all times.