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Stabilizer® for aggregate fire lanes, driveways, and parking lots



#### **Stabilizer- The Original Natural Binder**

Stabilizer is an organic powder that stabilizes soil by binding soil particles. It is a natural, non-toxic, non-staining, odorless, environmentally safe powder derived from crushed seed hulls. Stabilizer can be used with a variety of crushed aggregates: Decomposed Granite, Crushed Stone, Hard Rock, or Limestone, etc. to create natural looking fire lanes, driveways, and parking areas. Stabilizer strengthens aggregates to withstand traffic and weather extremes. Stabilizer is patented and manufactured solely by Stabilizer Solutions, Inc. One ton of Stabilized aggregate typically covers 75 sq ft. at a 3" depth. Coverage will vary depending on aggregate.

Advancing the Evolution of Soil    26 Years    Over 100,000 Projects    36 Countries

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Kafka Granite LLC distributes Stabilized Pathway Mixes that are pre-blended with Stabilizer Binder. The crushed aggregates we use in these mixes are pre-engineered to meet all required specifications set by Stabilizer Solutions, Inc.

## **Preparation**

Stabilized aggregate requires a 6" compacted layer of your state's DOT recommended crushed granular road base. Pre-soak the base material with water and compact to 95% prior to installing Stabilized aggregate. Although porous, it is recommended to have proper drainage available to ensure no standing water on surface or adjacent to Stabilized aggregate, including downspouts when placed under roof overhang.



*Compaction of wet granular base*

## **Installing Stabilized Aggregate**

Place the Stabilizer and aggregate mixture on the prepared base, and rake smooth to desired grade and cross section. Place material to sufficient depth to allow 4" for residential or 5" depth for commercial after compaction. Do not install Stabilized aggregate during rainy conditions or below 40 degrees Fahrenheit and falling.

## *Machine Application*



## Hand Application



## Watering

Water activates Stabilizer. It is essential that Stabilizer be watered thoroughly through the entire depth. To achieve saturation of Stabilized aggregate profile, 25 to 45-gallons of water per 1-ton must be applied. During water application, test moisture penetration using a probing device reaching full depth.



*Better to over water than under water*

## Compaction

Wait a minimum of 6-hours to a maximum of 48-hours, or until the aggregate is able to accept compaction from a 1 to 5-ton roller without separation, plowing or any other physical damage of the aggregate. The aggregate will begin to dry out and setup. Compaction can begin when you can walk on the material without sinking in significantly and material does not feel too muddy. Do not allow material to dry out completely.

If surface aggregate dries significantly quicker than subsurface material, lightly mist surface before compaction. Compact the material with a compactor as specified below making 3 to 4 passes (do not use a vibratory unit). Upon thorough moisture penetration, compact aggregate to 85% relative compaction by equipment such as; a 1 to 5-ton double drum roller. DO NOT use a vibratory plate compactor or vibration feature on roller, as vibration separates large aggregate particles.

Installation of Stabilized aggregate at a depth more than 3" must be installed in lifts. If 4" thick compact in (2) 2" lifts. If 5" thick, compact in (2) 2.5" lifts. If Stabilized aggregate is pre-moistened before installation entire 4" or 5" lift may be installed.



*Do not allow material to dry completely before rolling*

### **Inspection**

Allow aggregate to dry completely. Drying time may vary depending on amount of water used and weather conditions. Once completely dried, the surface should be smooth, uniform and solid. No evidence of chipping or cracking. Cured and compacted surface should be firm throughout profile with no spongy areas. Loose material will not be present on the surface after installation, but may appear after use. Surface should remain stable underneath the loose granite on top. Stabilizer will not turn the aggregate into concrete- you can still feel the crunch of the gravel under foot. It is a "natural" looking pathway, yet stable throughout and can withstand vehicle traffic and weather extremes. Any significant irregularities in surface should be repaired to the uniformity of entire installation.

### **Maintenance**

Remove debris, such as paper, grass clippings, leaves or other organic material by mechanically blowing or hand raking the surface as needed. Any plowing program required during winter months should involve the use of a rubber baffle on the plow blade or wheels on the plow that lifts the blade 1/4" off the aggregate surface. During the first year, a minor amount of loose aggregate will appear on the surface (1/16 to 1/4"). If this material exceeds a 1/4 of an inch, redistribute the material over the entire surface. Water material thoroughly to the depth of 1", and compact with power roller of no less than 1000-lbs.

### **References**

Stabilizer is the original natural binder in use internationally for over 26 years. Some of the worlds greatest projects use Stabilizer, here are a few:



**The Royal Botanical Garden- Melbourne, Australia**



**The Constantine Brancusi Sculpture Garden- Tar Jiu, Romania**



**The Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago, IL USA**