

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

BUILDING PRODUCTS: CLAY BRICKS, PAVERS, ROOF TILES, FLOOR TILES, WALL TILES AND ACCESSORIES

These substances are classified as Hazardous according to criteria of Worksafe Australia.

IDENTIFICATION

Product Name:	Fire Clay Products
Other Names:	Bricks, Pavers, Blocks, Roof Tiles, Floor Tiles, Wall Tiles and Accessories
Manufacturer's Code:	Not Applicable
UN Number:	None Allocated
Dangerous Goods Class and Subsidiary Risk:	Not Dangerous Goods
Hazchem Code:	None Allocated
Poisons Schedule:	Not Scheduled
Use:	Building products used in Civil and Commercial Building Construction, Landscaping Applications and for Paving

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION / PROPERTIES

Appearance:	Varies from pressed, wirecut and special shaped bricks, pavers, floor and wall tiles in a wide range of colours and finishes. Terracotta roof tiles are a pressed profile and their finish is either fully semi-glazed or unglazed.
Melting Point:	Not Applicable
Vapour Pressure:	Not Applicable
Specific Gravity:	2.00 to 2.4 Kg/m ³
Flash Point:	Not Flammable
Flammability Limits:	Not Flammable
Solubility in Water:	Insoluble
Other Properties:	Not Applicable
Ingredients:	Fired vitrified clay or shale

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS NUMBER	PROPORTION
Crystalline Silica (α Quartz)	14808-60-7	0.1 to 50%
Other ingredients determined not to be hazardous:		50% to 100%

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

HEALTH EFFECTS: The physical form of the clay products supplied by The Brickworks Group of Companies pose little or no risk to human health. Risks to human health may arise when the products are reworked liberating dust (which includes a hazardous component, crystalline silica) in a form which is respirable.

ACUTE EFFECTS:

Swallowed: Nuisance dust, mild irritant.

Eyes: Nuisance dust, mild irritant.

Skin: Unlikely to cause significant effects, may cause mild irritation from manual handling due to the abrasive texture and edges of some products.

Inhaled: If product is in an inhalable or respirable form, acute exposure may result in irritation to respiratory tract. If exposure is very large, then acute silicosis may occur. Acute silicosis is characterised by progressively laboured breathing.

CHRONIC EFFECTS:

Chronic inhalation of crystalline silica may result in serious adverse health effects, particularly if the crystalline silica is of respirable size (approximately $< 7 \mu\text{m}$ aerodynamic diameter). Chronic exposure to crystalline silica in humans is associated with impairment of lung function. Reduced lung function may occur as a result of an increase in fibrotic tissue (silicosis), atrophy of gas exchange surfaces (emphysema) or airway obstruction (bronchiolitis).

Crystalline silica has been shown to induce lung cancer in laboratory animals and there is limited evidence that it may cause lung cancer in humans. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified crystalline silica as a probable human carcinogen (2A).

FIRST AID:

Eyes: If in eyes, wash with water for 15 minutes.
If irritation persists, see doctor.

Inhaled: If discomfort or irritation occurs, remove to fresh air.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Limits: Worksafe Australia has endorsed an interim Exposure Standard, Time Weighted Average (TWA), of $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ for Crystalline Silica.

However, where a State or Local Authority prescribes a standard lower than $0.1\text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$, the lower standard applies.

Engineering Controls: Generating dusts from this product should be avoided. Where possible dampen materials before re-working. If dust generation is unavoidable, local exhaust ventilation or good natural ventilation should be employed. It is recommended that this product is wet sawn and drilled. Accumulated dust should be dry vacuumed or wetted and swept up. Wear suitable protective equipment for the eyes, skin and respiratory system.

Personal Protection:

<i>Inhalation:</i>	As appropriate particulate (dust) respirator should be used where dust may be generated. Respiratory protection should comply with AS/NZS1716 (1994) Respiratory Devices.
<i>Eyes:</i>	Eye goggles should be worn as a general precaution if dust is likely to enter the eyes.
<i>Hands:</i>	Gloves should be worn as a general precaution when handling fired product.
<i>Flammability:</i>	Not flammable.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage and Transport: No special requirements.

Spills and Disposal: If material is spilled, wet and sweep up area, or dry vacuum. Waste material should be bagged / wrapped and disposed in a manner which avoids generating dust.

OTHER INFORMATION:

CONTACT POINT: Occupational Health and Safety Manager or Site Manager.

For further information contact your nearest Austral Bricks, Eureka Tiles or Bristile Roofing Office

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