



CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

I would like to think that I am a tech savvy individual. I try to keep current with all the new phone, tablet, and computer apps and devices. I like to read about all the new automotive advancements and medical science breakthroughs. I generally just like science and technology. So, when I heard someone talking about new paver and concrete technology, I was intrigued. It's just a brick, right? Wrong! So, I want to talk about just two of the new processes being utilized. I apologize for the food references to follow. We work next to Karl's Cabin, its noon, and the smells are unbearably good!



The first is called "wet cast". To simplify this process, think of that jello mold your grandma used to make in fun different shapes with fruit and marshmallow inside. Sometimes she got crazy and would even layer two different flavors together. The concrete manufacturers use a similar process as they take a liquid base concrete, add an aggregate to it, mix in the colors and pour into a mold. The molds that they use can be cast from real rock formations, or symmetrical shapes with varying textures

and designs. Colors can be added in at different times and ways to produce two, three or more color shades and blends that are completely random or perfectly consistent. Some producers will add in extra binding material such as fiberglass to increase the strength of their products. The end result is a product that will be consistently stronger, have better color retention and a unique design that will be easy to install. Most wet cast products are designed to look like natural rock. As many of you know, Mother Nature is not consistent, and trying to find that right size piece or color sometimes proves to be quite challenging. With the wet cast products, you know what you're going to get every time.

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