TRADE CONNECT QLD NEWSLETTER



Issue 1 - Spring 2016

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Did you know that Christmas is just under 3 months away? With the holiday season gets closer the demand for a trade gets higher as everyone wants their home to look perfect when friends and family visit and if you leave it too late that work you want done will have to wait until after Christmas. For example, a concreter may usually have availabilities a few weeks after paying a Christmas that turns into a few months. Even something as simple as getting the pool cleaned or garden tidied can turn into a waiting game. With Trade Connect Qld you can pay a deposit now and book your work in to start at a later date so that you are guaranteed a start date for your work to be done as well as locking in the price. If you have any queries or would like to book an appointment don not hesitate to get in contact with us.



THE IDEA BEHIND THE BUSINESS

The idea for the business came from the amount of time and frustration felt when trying to arrange multiple trades while moving into their house and juggling work and family commitments at the same time, and while there are many interior designers available there was a noticeable absence of services available when renovating the exterior of a house.

Taking the stress out of your external renovation needs!

At Trade Connect Qld we understand that life is busy and while spending more time with friends and family is important, you don't want to spend precious time trying to arrange quotes and appointments for your home improvement needs. We can offer you a wide range of trade solutions, we work with only the best tradesmen that Queensland has to offer. Don't risk using a trade you can't trust – your home is safe with us!

Give Trade Connect Qld a call and we will visit your house, discuss your needs, provide you with a written quote and arrange the start date of each trade required, we can also Project Manage your renovation to take the stress out of dealing with multiple trades and ensuring that everything stays on track.

We can arrange quotes for the following trades, and many more: concreting, outdoor flooring such as decorative concreting, decking and tiling, fencing and fence repairs, landscaping and garden care, pool care and maintenance, render, retaining walls, shade sail cleaning and installation, house washing, high pressure cleaning etc.

"we work with only the best tradesmen that Queensland has to offer, Don't risk using a trade you can't trust"

WHO TO CALL

Call Phillip, he has used his many years of knowledge in the industry and numerous connections to build a substantial database of reputable trades. His commitment to ensuring each job is done to the highest standard means that no client will be disappointed.

OUTDOOR FLOORING OPTIONS

SYNTHETIC LAWN

Synthetic lawns are not only a child and pet friendly option but is a great alternative to grass if someone has an allergy to grass to where the look and feel of grass is desired but without the ongoing care and maintenance. The synthetic lawn sold through Trade Connect QLD have been fully tested by CSIRO for UV stability and are specially treated to withstand Australia's harsh conditions, we are so sure of the quality of the product that we sell that we offer a 15-year warranty on all products.



Synthetic lawns have numerous uses outside of the family backyard – commercial properties, Child Care Centres, Cricket pitches and multi-purpose sports centres, school ovals and can even be installed indoors. The feel of the grass is soft and lush and has the look of natural grass without having to worry about it dying off in the heat of summer.

WOOD / ARTIFICIAL WOOD

Both real timber and mod wood are very popular when it comes to creating an outdoor oasis and the choice between the two materials will depend on the area of where it is to be used, some applications are suitable for both materials such as creating a screen or a fascia but other uses will have a favoured material which is more suitable for the job. Below is a brief outline of each material.



Natural Timber

Natural timber:

Real timber is ideal for outdoor decking, fences, gates, seating and screens and some types such as Blackbutt and Spotted Gum have a natural fire resistance which meet the Australian Standard AS3959 and can be used in fire prone areas without any additional treatment. If an indoor/outdoor area is being created, timber would be suitable as it can help with the internal/external flow of the design as well as being able to be refinished to its original look and feel with minimal fuss. Australian timber is ideal as decking as it is suited to the Australian conditions while providing a long lasting surface.



Mod Wood

Mod wood:

Mod wood is great for areas that can be prone to moisture and/or termites as it is both termite resistant and resilient to algae growth. It can be used in all the same areas where natural timber can be used and is even suitable to areas where timber may not be suitable such as wet areas. Mod wood does not crack, rot or splinter and oiling is not required, it is UV stable which makes it suitable for high traffic and outdoor areas. The fixings are invisible which give the deck a seamless flow and the easy installation and minimal maintenance means that it is a great alternative to natural timber.

TILES

Tiles continue to be a very popular choice of flooring inside the home but when it comes to laying tiles outside the situation can be a little trickier as the area and elements need to be accounted for when choosing the right outdoor tile. The pricing for tiles can range from very cheap – think \$15 - \$20m – to tiles costing hundreds of dollars per metre, there are many reasons for the variation in price including what material it is made from, where it was made and the uniqueness of the product. The most popular material for tiles are ceramic but other options also include porcelain and stone, with tiles being made either locally or imported from overseas.



Stone Tiles

When choosing a tile for outdoors it is imperative to make sure the finish is suited for the area, if it is going to be exposed to the elements and will get wet they should have a non-slip finish especially if used for paths leading up to the front door or a driveway. Tiles are also great for people who suffer from allergies as they can be 100% non-toxic as long as a non-toxic grout is used and are very easy to clean which is another appeal for people with children or for those who own pets.

CONCRETE

There are many different options for concrete, the most common applications are listed below.



Plain concrete

Plain:

Plain concrete is the basis of most finishes previously mentioned such as tiling and can be used as a basis of synthetic lawn, it can be kept either plain (as pictured) or can be finished in a multitude of ways. Brushed and salted are a cheap way of finishing the concrete if there is no other application going over the top, there is also the option to colour the concrete if the grey colour is not desired. Patterns can be stamped into the concrete while it is still wet to give it a

different appearance. Another finish for existing or newly laid concrete is to have it honed, this is where the top layers of the concrete are ground down exposing the aggregate in the concrete then polished using a finer grade of abrasive. While the honed concrete may not look as refined as polished concrete it is more suitable for outdoors as it is slip resistant and can be sealed to help prevent mould and also give it a glossier appearance with the right type of sealer.

Exposed aggregate:

Exposed aggregate has traditionally been a popular option for driveways, pathways, outdoor entertaining areas, pools and pool surrounds and public areas in civil applications. Exposed aggregate is the process of removing the outer layer of the concrete to expose the natural aggregate underneath, it is also highly versatile and contrasts beautifully with plain concrete or other decorative treatments such as stencilled, stamped and coloured concrete. Notable advantages of an exposed aggregate concrete finish are that it is resistant to heavy traffic and adverse weather conditions, it has an increased slip resistance and very little maintenance is required.



Aggregate

Sealing:

Sealing helps to protect the concrete and also adds a nice finish to the surface. The sealer will prolong the life of your surface and while it may seem like an unnecessary additional expense it is a lot cheaper to seal and re-seal the surface than replacing the coating. Sealing a surface will make it resistant to weather exposure, moisture, grease and oil and makes the surface easier to clean and depending on the sealer and the area that has been sealed it can last on average between 2 – 6 years for the standard concrete sealer and 20 years+ for a penetrating sealer. It is very important to use a reputable company when sealing a surface as some companies have been known to dilute their sealer or use the incorrect seal for the surface which can lead to premature wearing or the surface not being protected as well as it could be.

Decorative concrete coating:



A decorative concrete coating is an ideal application if the current concrete is still in good condition but a different look is desired. This option is usually cheaper than tiles and come in numerous different styles and colours which suit most areas. The surface is slip resistant and highly durable to the Australian weather as well as wear and tear from foot and vehicle traffic which makes it a suitable surface for patios, paths and driveways.

Decorative concrete coating

KEEP EYE OUT FOR OUR FLYER IN YOUR MAILBOX!



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