The Right Colour

As well as natural grey, Northstone produces a range of coloured mortars to complement the specifier's choice of block or brick. The colours used are based on synthetic iron oxide pigments made to British and European standards and are guaranteed durable. The Northstone Mortar Colour Range is shown opposite (see notes below for more guidance on colours).

The pigment is pre-weighed in water-soluble bags which are added to our specially designed 'Colouranger' ancilliary mixer which is attached to the rear of the delivery truck. This mixes consistent coloured mortar by the tub enabling the customer to enjoy the flexibility of getting plain and coloured mortar from the same delivery.

Notes on Colour Chart:
Our coloured mortars are identified using a simple system with the codes for each colour noted on the chart opposite. Each colour is available in three shades for example Charcoal mortar comes in shades C1, C2, C3; Light Brown mortar in shades LB1, LB2, LB3 and so on. The standard shade for each colour is the number ‘3’ mix hence these are the shades shown on the chart. Like all such charts, these colours are to be used for guidance only and we would recommend that sample brick/blockwork panels are built using our coloured mortars before final selection is made. Northstone are happy to provide, free of charge, sample bags of coloured mortar for the construction of panels at any stage of the specification or construction process. To avail of this service please contact our Head Office on 028 7965 0461.

The Right Plaster

Northstone's plastering mixes are manufactured with a specially blended plastering grade sand which provides both strength and ease of application. Our internal plaster mix complies with BS 5262 while our external render is generally supplied with a waterproofing admixture and is manufactured to BS 5492.

Plaster mixes are normally supplied with a 12-hour retardation period although other retardations are available on request.
Northstone Mortar (formerly Readyuse Mortar) produces a range of quality plain and coloured mortars for the NI construction market. Catering for major local building projects to domestic DIY and everything in between, our mortar is delivered to site in quantities to suit the customer’s requirements. Northstone produce the following mortar products:
- Building Mortar for brick and block laying
- Plastering Mortar for internal and external applications
- Full range of Coloured Mortars

Northstone mortar is delivered into tubs and is immediately ready for use without any further treatment on site. With no set-up or breakdown costs and minimal wastage, this system offers the contractor significant economic advantages over site-mixed mortar.
In keeping with the Northstone Group’s dedication to quality across its product range, Northstone Mortar is produced under computerised control in modern weigh-batching plants to ensure consistency and long term durability.

All raw materials used comply with the relevant British Standard and our mortars are produced to meet the requirements set out in BS4721. Table 4 from this Standard which outlines mortar designations and associated strengths is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mortar Designation</th>
<th>Cement: Sand with Plasticiser</th>
<th>Compressive Strength at 28 days (N/mm²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>1 : 3</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>1 : 3 to 4</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>1 : 5 to 6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>1 : 7 to 8</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The mortars normally supplied for brick and blockwork are Designation II for use in substructure work, ie below DPC and Designation III for superstructure work. Plastering mortar is generally Designation III.

Northstone Mortar is designed to hold its required properties of cohesiveness and workability for a set retardation period in delivery tubs, but starts to set as it loses water into the brick/block. The most widely used retardation is 36 hours but mortar can be supplied with longer or shorter retardation periods as required.
The Right Coverage

Northstone's network of mortar depots provides an unrivaled coverage of the local construction market. The map of Northern Ireland below shows mortar depot locations and the areas where a regular daily service is available.

**DUNMURRY DEPOT**
Tel (028) 9055 1353  
Fax (028) 9062 1649  
Areas Covered: Greater Belfast, North Down, Ards Peninsula, Central and South Down, Lisburn, Crumlin, Newtownabbey, South Antrim, Ballymena.

**CRAIGAVON DEPOT**
Tel (028) 3833 1333  
Fax (028) 3833 6996  
Areas Covered: Craigavon, Banbridge, Newry, South Down, Co Armagh, Dungannon, Cookstown.

**COLERAINE DEPOT**
Tel (028) 7034 3973  
Fax (028) 7035 6069  
Areas Covered: Coleraine, Portrush, Portstewart, Ballymoney, North Antrim, Limavady, Londonderry.