



Rock Steady

If you're after an expertly crafted, elegant fire surround, Pinckney Green won't disappoint

The professionals at Pinckney Green use locally quarried Bath limestone, Cotswold limestone and Portland stone to create gorgeous hand-made fireplaces. Both limestones are valued by architects and designers around the world for their unique colour, appearance and quality. And what's more, this beautiful natural resource is eco-friendly, too. Because it's sourced locally, it doesn't come laden with the environmental cost that high sea-miles clock-up. And, as the stone is only ever lifted from the very top of the quarry, it is always of the highest quality. And, it's practical too – most spillages on natural stone hearths or fire surrounds can be quickly cleaned-up using soapy water and a rough-bristled brush.

Then & Now

"Bath limestone is over one hundred million years old. The shells of ancient sea creatures and molluscs are encased within the fabric of the stone, adding character and providing a brilliant talking point," comments Bif. He explains that there are four main stages of production involved in transporting limestone from the quarry to your home: "First of all, the quarry man brings the stone out of the open

cast, or mined quarry. Then, a sawyer mason cuts it into manageable blocks, which are then carved into the desired shape by the banker mason. The stone mason then completes the final stage, which is fitting the stone in situ."

"When selecting a surround, think about whether you'd prefer the opulence and curved shapes typical of the Georgian and Regency periods or the clean, straight lines of Victorian and Edwardian pieces," advises Bif Wilkins, the Director of Pinckney Green Fireplaces. Georgian surrounds were often detailed with subtle, elegant carvings and may have also been headed with pediments or cornices, and framed with classical columns. In this era, light-coloured marble or stone were popular choices. The Victorian Arts & Crafts movement and the Art Nouveau style of the early 20th century also favoured stone surrounds. Throughout the Gothic revival style in the 19th century, fireplaces were often made into more of a feature and turned into a centrepiece. Here again, stone was a popular material thanks to its stoical physical presence.

To browse through Pinckney Green's beautiful range of designs, take a look at the website pinckneygreen.co.uk or call 01225 332 549.

Made to measure

Often, when relocating to a period property that is in need of renovation or redecoration, you may find that some of the original fireplaces have been boarded up. In this instance, it could be tricky to find matching pieces, and consequently commissioning a bespoke model will be your main option. Luckily, Pinckney Green is more than qualified to carry out this service, and can even recreate a design from your own drawings or photographs.

