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shaping your environment



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Aluminium Lawn and Border Edging

General Product Information

RUSTY-EDGE is a decorative and flexible high-grade aluminium edge restraint designed to give the appearance of rusting steel.

Suitable for a variety of landscaping applications, these aluminium edgings have a powder coated paint finish to give the effect of rusting steel but without the risk of potential staining hard surfaces such as patios, gravels and decking that naturally rusting steel can cause.

RUSTY-EDGE is quick and simple to install and is maintenance free. The top profile has no sharp edges to damage you or your lawnmower and gives clean crisp lines or shapes to your borders, beds, lawns and pathways.

The longevity of its working life makes it suitable for use in public and private areas including playgrounds, parks and surrounding areas of landscaping to buildings.

Product Specification

Product code	C561
Material	Aluminium
Aluminium Specification	6063 T-6 Hardness
Finish	Rust Effect
Profile Height	150mm
Profile Thickness	4mm
Piece Length	2.4m
Pieces per pack	10
Linear Metres per pack	24m
Visible Thickness	4.8mm
Piece Weight	2.44kg
Fixing Method	Aluminium Stakes
Fixing Points	2 per piece
Joining Method*	Stake Pocket Piece

* Each pack is supplied with 21 brown pocket pieces and 21 brown fixing stakes

Rainbow Professional Limited as part of its continual improvement process reserve the right to change the properties listed on this data sheet without prior notice.



General Installation Information

Step 1 - Dig a small trench around 5cm wide and 15cm deep (this depth is dependent on how much of the edging you wish to see) in the exact position you require your new edge.

Step 2 - Now form the RUSTY-EDGE to the shape and design you require. At this stage ensure that any bending results in the stake fixing pocket grooves being on the blind side of the edging i.e. the side you are not going to see. For sharp angled bends use a piece of 6" x 2" timber or the end of a work bench holding the RUSTY-EDGE down on the flat surface and swiftly pushing down on the overhanging section until the desired angled bend is achieved. This can now be placed into the trench you formed earlier for the edging.

Important notes –

- a) Before any bending or shaping takes place ensure you slide the stake fixing pockets into the desired positions as you may not be able to do this once the RUSTY-EDGE has been bent/shaped.
- b) The stake fixing pockets are also used to join two pieces of RUSTY-EDGE to each other.

Step 3 - If edging a lawn check the exact height for the top of the RUSTY-EDGE which should normally be just above true ground level (approx. 2-6mm) but beneath the required cut grass level. Remember to put your RUSTY-EDGE with the stake fixing pockets on the blind side i.e. next to the lawn edge.

Step 4 - If you are now happy with the shape and height, add any remaining stake fixing pockets and drive the fixing stakes fully home.

Step 5 - A simple back filling down the sides of your RUSTY-EDGE completes your installation.

Helpful Tips

Jointing is achieved using the supplied stake pocket pieces simply sliding inside the grooves on the reverse side of the edging. Avoid forming curves and bends at stake pocket locations as it will not be possible to bend the stake pockets. When making cuts use a sharp scribe for saw to follow.

Tools needed: Spade, Hacksaw, Scribe, Hammer/Mallet, Gloves, Eye Protection.

The above notes are intended as a guide only and professional opinion should be obtained before work is commissioned. Rainbow Professional Limited accepts no responsibility for any damage or loss as a result of using the information in these guidelines. We will be happy to engage in any discussion regarding the site in question.

Fire Protection

RUSTY-EDGE uses Aluminium Alloy 6063 T6 which does not burn and is not a fire hazard. Each year hundreds of thousands of tonnes of aluminium scrap are fed into re-melt furnaces and heated up to and beyond the melting point (660.3 °C). The aluminium melts when the temperature exceeds the melting point, it does not burn. If it did, the recycling of aluminium would not be possible.

However, the cardboard packaging that is used to transport RUSTY-EDGE will burn if exposed to a naked flame.

Storage and Handling

RUSTY-EDGE uses Aluminium Alloy 6063 T6 which is one of the easiest materials to keep in good condition. It has a high natural resistance to corrosive conditions normally encountered during shipment and storage. The product is securely packed in a single flute cardboard carton to ensure no movement of the product in transit and each carton is sealed with a fibre tape.

Each carton of RUSTY-EDGE will have the weight clearly shown at the end of carton. Whilst there is no specific weight restrictions on what is or is not safe to lift in manual handling, an assessment of the health and safety risks should be undertaken and measures taken to reduce the risk of injury so far as reasonably practicable.

- a) Each person should be fully trained in manual handling techniques.
- b) The use of handling aids such as a trolley, folk-lift, pallet truck or conveyor should be used if moving large volumes of cartons.
- c) Breaking up large consignments into more manageable loads.
- d) Ensure that the product is stored at a reasonable height, so avoiding the lifting of cartons from floor level or above shoulder height.
- e) Reduce carrying distances of cartons.

Protective Equipment

We would recommend that personal protective equipment (PPE) is used when installing RUSTY-EDGE.

- a) Good strong safety boots/shoes to protect the feet from cutting blades, heavy equipment and dropped landscape product.
- b) Protective eyewear such as safety glasses when cutting product to protect eyes from flying objects.
- c) Strong gloves to protect the hands from blisters, scratches and cuts from tools etc.
- d) If using loud cutting equipment then ear plugs or ear muffs should be worn to protect hearing.
- e) When using a chainsaw, chaps to be worn.

Physical Properties

RUSTY-EDGE uses Aluminium Alloy 6063 T6. This is a medium strength alloy commonly referred to as an architectural alloy. It is normally used in intricate extrusions. It has a good surface finish, high corrosion resistance and is readily suited to welding and can be easily anodised.

The physical properties of 6063 T6 are:

Physical Properties	Value
Density	2.70 g/cm ³
Melting Point	660.3 °C
Thermal Expansion	23.5 x 10 ⁻⁶ /K
Modulus of Elasticity	69.5 GPa
Thermal Conductivity	200 W/m.K
Electrical Resistivity	0.035 x 10 ⁻⁶ Ω.m

First Aid

The Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981 require all construction sites to have –

- a) A first aid box with enough equipment to cope with the numbers of workers on site.
- b) An appointed person to take charge of first-aid arrangements. The appointed person looks after first-aid equipment and facilities and calls the emergency services when required. They can also provide emergency cover where a first-aider is unexpectedly absent (annual leave does not count). Appointed persons do not need first aid training.
- c) A first-aider is someone who has undertaken training and has a qualification that HSE approves. This means that they must hold a valid certificate of competence in either:
 - first aid at work (FAW) issued by a training organisation approved by HSE, or
 - emergency first aid at work (EFAW) issued by a training organisation approved by HSE or a recognised Awarding Body of Ofqual/Scottish Qualifications Authority.
- d) The number of first-aiders will depend on the site:

Number of employees	First aiders
Fewer than 5	At least one appointed person
5-50	At least one first-aider trained in EFAW or FAW, depending on the type of injuries that may occur
More than 50	At least one first-aider trained in FAW for every 50 people employed (or part of 50)

- e) Information should be clearly displayed on site telling workers the name of the appointed person or first aider and where to find them. A notice in the site hut is a good way of doing this.

Resistance to Chemicals

Thanks to the protective properties of the natural oxide layer, aluminium shows good resistance to many chemicals. However, low or high pH values (less than 4 and more than 9) lead to the oxide layer dissolving and, consequently, rapid corrosion of the aluminium. Inorganic acids and strong alkaline solutions are thus very corrosive for aluminium.

Exceptions to the above are concentrated nitric acid and solutions of ammonia. These do not attack aluminium.

In moderately alkaline water solutions, corrosion can be hindered by using silicates as inhibitors. Such kinds of inhibitors are normally included in dishwasher detergents.

Most inorganic salts are not markedly corrosive for aluminium. Heavy metal salts form an exception here. These can give rise to serious galvanic corrosion due to the reduction of heavy metals (e.g. copper and mercury) on aluminium surfaces.

Aluminium has very good resistance to many organic compounds. Aluminium equipment is used in the production and storage of many chemicals.

Stability

RUSTY-EDGE uses Aluminium Alloy 6063 T6. This is a medium strength alloy commonly referred to as an architectural alloy. In the building industry aluminium is now a first choice wherever durability coupled with minimal maintenance are prime considerations.

All building materials are eventually degraded by weathering, corrosion, rot and decay. Aluminium's natural ability to resist these influences better than many materials is one of its most widely appreciated features. Aluminium reacts with the oxygen in the air to form an extremely thin layer of oxide, this layer is dense and provides excellent corrosion protection, the layer is also self-repairing if damaged.

In its unprotected 'mill finish' form aluminium is used very successfully for long-life everyday products making RUSTY-EDGE more than suitable for its application as a landscape edging system.

RUSTY-EDGE is the first choice in metal landscape edgings for specifiers and contractors due to its versatility, strength, speed of installation and cost effectiveness. The use of RUSTY-EDGE aluminium landscape edgings will enhance any project.

Environmental Issues

All RUSTY-EDGE aluminium products can be recycled 100%. If the product is no longer required it can be removed from the ground and recycled and the area returned back to its natural state.

RUSTY-EDGE has a recycled content of aluminium which is derived from two sources, 60% post industrial and 10% post consumer and the balance of 30% is virgin aluminium. The 30% virgin is blended in with the recycled content to help achieve the proper alloy specification for chemical content which in turn helps achieve the specified mechanical properties for strength.

Scrap aluminium is a valuable resource and can be recycled over and over again into a new generation of products. Furthermore, recycling requires only 5% of the original input.

There are plenty of raw materials for the production of aluminium. In a variety of forms, aluminium compounds make up a full 8% of the Earth's crust. Bauxite is the main starting point in the production of aluminium and given current rates of production there is enough bauxite to last another 200 to 400 years, this based upon no increases in the use of recycled aluminium and no further discoveries of bauxite.

Packaging considerations – RUSTY-EDGE is packed in a single flute cardboard carton of which 75% of the cardboard has been manufactured using recycled material. The cardboard can be recycled and disposed of in the normal manner.

For more information visit our web site www.rite-edge.com
or telephone our technical helpline on 01482 616861