



SWANAGE
HANDMADE
BRICKS SINCE
1865



**Ibstock
Brick**

THE SWANAGE STORY

WWW.SWANAGEHANDMADEBRICKS.COM



Ibstock
At the heart of building

The Swanage Story – continuing a proud heritage.

One of the few true hand
made brickworks.

Swanage has over 150 years of experience handed down throughout the generations, producing bricks with personality and integrity.

Our traditional and bespoke stock bricks have created award winning traditional and contemporary buildings. It's genuinely an inspiring factory with a skilled and proud workforce who would like nothing more than for you to take a factory tour to see how our bricks are made. Whilst you're here, why not throw your own brick and we'll fire it for you.

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40 YEARS OF CLAY RESERVES

We have invested in more than 40 years of clay reserves, with royalties of one pence per brick being paid to the National Trust for future reserves.

At the heart of each brick

Quarry & clay

Close to the jurassic coast, swanage shares a rich, varied geology and has had extensive quarrying from before victorian times.

Today, our clay is still dug from our own wealden clay beds on the isle of purbeck at

our brickworks. The quarry seams provide many varied colours and are mixed, stacked and left to weather for several months. The clay is then moved slowly into our pan mill, reducing it to a malleable mixture, plastercized and delivered to the brick making tables perfect for throwing.



Unique characteristics

Craft, people & process

All of our brickmakers learn their craft from skills handed down from previous generations. Once the craft is perfected, it's our people who give each brick a sense of difference.

Hand thrown into traditional sanded moulds, each brick takes on the characteristics of its maker. This signature can be seen in the fine crease marks on the face of each brick, a feature that cannot be replicated by any machine.

This process not only defines the personality of each brick, but the personality of each building it adorns.

Bricks with individual personality

Clay is rolled in sand, a wedge shape is formed and then thrown into various moulds already sanded.

Excess clay is removed using a traditional bow and the 'green' bricks are stacked and moved to the drying ovens, fuelled by surplus heat from the kilns where they remain until ready for firing.



16,000
BRICKS PRODUCED
EVERY DAY

Everyday, between 1,400 & 1,800 bricks are made by each brickmaster. With all our brickmakers and our berry machine combined we produce between 15,000 and 16,000 bricks per day.

Brick sizes

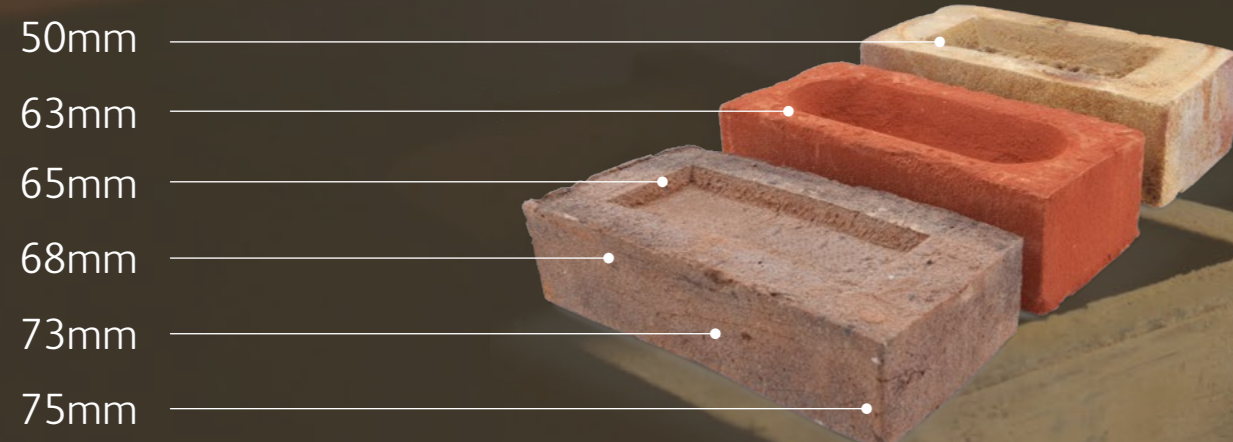
Metric, imperial & bespoke.

Imperial sized bricks, often required to match up with existing Victorian brickwork, are ideal for refurbishments and restoration.

At Swanage, imperial bricks are available as standard. We produce options available in 50mm, 65mm and Imperial size formats with fine stock textures in our range of Swanage colours.

392 moulds
DATING BACK 25 YEARS

If we haven't already got a mould in our archives to suit your project, our skilled craftsmen can create a bespoke mould to your specific requirements.



Fired earth

Firing for the perfect colour and finish.

The firing and cooling process takes approximately 3 days. Prior to firing, up to one pint of water is taken through evaporation from each brick during the drying process.

Our distinctive colours are obtained from the kiln settings and firing process, controlling the heat, time fired and reduction for the desired results.

Modern kilns have superseded the traditional tunnel kilns, providing us with the control required for consistency in colour and quality, complementing the handmaking process.

When cooled each brick is palletised by hand from the kiln car, ensuring only the best bricks are selected for your use.

20,000
BRICK BATCHES

From closing the kiln doors, firing and cooling takes 79 hours in 20,000 brick batches.

24 hour HEAT RECOVERY

After each firing, we recover the kiln heat for 24 hours for the 'green' brick drying process. The supply of warm air through heat recovery lowers our carbon emissions.



Bespoke blends

Blends that suit each individual project.

Swanage's true expertise lies in its ability to create purpose-made blends of bricks.

There are sometimes occasions where a standard brick just does not do the job and this is where the ability to mix colours, textures and sizes really comes into its own.

Whether it is to allow you to match to brickwork on an existing building, or the need to develop a unique blend for a particularly special project, Swanage can provide the solution.

For more information on Swanage bespoke or purpose-made blends contact **Mark Woolston** on **01929 422257**.



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
ORANGERY, READING, BERKSHIRE



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
KIMCOTE HALL, KIMCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
ORANGERY, READING, BERKSHIRE

SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
FULTON BUILDING,
UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX, BRIGHTON



Bespoke blends

Blends that suit each individual project



22% MOISTURE IN ALL CLAY

With 22% moisture in our clay, all moulds have to be made oversized to allow for 10% shrinkage in length and 5% in height.

Extra special shapes

Cut and bond, bespoke and standard

A full range of both manufactured and cut and bonded special shaped bricks is available in British Standard and non-standard formats for all Swanage products including bespoke blends. This ensures a seamless match with the main feature brick.

Matching up with existing special shapes forms part of the service provided by Swanage, particularly on refurbishment projects where often there is a requirement for intricate ornamental designs typical of Victorian masonry architecture.

We have an extensive library of existing moulds and can make new moulds to your specifications.



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
SHIPLAKE COLLEGE,
READING, BERKSHIRE

Glazed headers

Creating unique bonding patterns throughout the years

Grey glazed headers are a feature typically found on many traditional houses in the Wealden counties of Kent and East & West Sussex.

Used as a feature, normally with plain red stock or handmade bricks, the glazed headers are either used in a variety of bonding patterns such as English & Flemish bonds or as a feature to create a particular pattern often in a diamond formation, such as on the dormitory buildings at Shiplake College, Henley-on-Thames.



Grey glazed headers are now normally used to recreate these effects on new buildings or to match adjacent brickwork often where planning requirements dictate.

For more information on Glazed Headers contact Mark Woolston on 01929 422257.

Handmade products

Our bricks are made in the same traditional ways using clay from the same quarry for the last 150 years.



SWANAGE HANDMADE LIGHT RED MULTI



**KINGSTON HANDMADE HEATHER RED
4355**

SWANAGE IMPERIAL LIGHT STOCK
68MM





SWANAGE HANDMADE LIGHT RED MULTI
COLCHESTER 6TH FORM COLLEGE



KINGSTON HANDMADE RESTORATION RED
4354



SWANAGE HANDMADE LIGHT RED
4302



KINGSTON HANDMADE LIGHT RED MULTI
4356



KINGSTON HANDMADE LIGHT RED
4357



SWANAGE HANDMADE HEATHER RED
4301



SWANAGE HANDMADE HEATHER RED
PENLU FLATS, SWANAGE



SWANAGE HANDMADE LIGHT RED MULTI
4303



SWANAGE HANDMADE LIGHT RED MULTI
DOUAI ABBEY, READING



SWANAGE HANDMADE RESTORATION RED
HOTEL, BINLEY, COVENTRY



SWANAGE HANDMADE RESTORATION RED
4312



SWANAGE IMPERIAL RED STOCK 68MM
4316



SWANAGE IMPERIAL LIGHT STOCK 68MM
4317



SWANAGE IMPERIAL RED STOCK
WATCH TOWER, RAF MUSEUM, HENDON



SWANAGE IMPERIAL LIGHT STOCK 68MM
PRIVATE APARTMENTS, HAMPSTEAD, LONDON

Bespoke blends

A rich history of beautiful handmade bricks

Swanage specialises in creating bespoke or purpose-made blends. These are blends of bricks created for a specific project or customer to meet a particular colour, texture or size requirement. This enables the designer to fully exploit their creative flair or to match existing brickwork where a standard brick, 'off the shelf', doesn't do the job.

These panels are just a few of the unlimited options available from Swanage showing blends in:

- 50mm, 65mm and Imperial size formats
- Handmade and fine stock textures in all or a range of Swanage colours
- Non-standard products such as grey glazed headers and brown bricks e.g Purbeck Brown
- Standard blends such as the Ulwell Multi and Wimborne Mixture

Bespoke blend projects are showcased throughout the brochure.

For more information on Swanage bespoke blends contact Mark Woolston on **01929 422257**.



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND A
50MM FORMAT



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND B
IMPERIAL FORMAT



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
KIMCOTE HALL, KIMCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND
KIMCOTE HALL, KIMCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND D



SWANAGE BESPOKE BLEND E

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