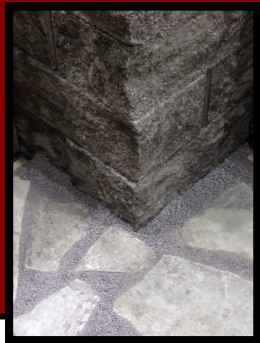




CHERRY STONE® POULTRY & TRACTION GRITS



What is Cherry Stone made of?

Cherry Stone Poultry & Traction Grit is 100% natural quartzite. It is called “Cherry Stone” because of its rose color.

What are the uses of Cherry Stone?

Cherry Stone was originally, and most commonly, used as a digestion aid for poultry birds. Since birds have no teeth, poultry grits are used to help digest food in the gizzard of birds. The hard, insoluble nature of Cherry Stone Grit also makes it ideal as a traction grit for slip-relief on icy and snow-packed walkways, driveways, and streets. Additionally, it is used for hobby crafts, aquariums, flower pot drainage, grill liners, paver joint sand, aeration, friction aggregate and is a key ingredient in Al's Gritty Mix. For more information on the uses, please visit www.cherrystonegrit.com.

How is Cherry Stone Grit used by poultry?

Cherry Stone is a clean, angular grit that is harder and sharper than granite. Birds have no teeth so these small stones are swallowed by the bird and travel to their muscular gizzard, a part of their digestive system where food is mixed and ground up as the gizzard contracts, breaking the food into small, digestible pieces. Grit is a very important part of the bird's ability to digest large particle-sized feed (including grains, grass, weeds, grain or kitchen scraps). Lack of grit can lead to digestive blockage, poor feed conversion, discomfort and even death. For more information on how to use Cherry Stone Grit for poultry, please visit [How to Feed Chickens](#).

How much grit do birds need to eat?

That will depend upon the size, age, diet and production stage of the bird. Birds will naturally eat what they need for proper digestion. We recommend free access to Cherry Stone Grit whether free-range or contained.

When do I start giving the birds grit to eat?

Start birds on grit when birds leave the brooder and are introduced to outside forage or once grains or scratch are fed to them.

What size poultry grit do I need?

Cherry Stone Poultry Grit comes in four pre-sorted size options:

- Poultry Grit #1 is the smallest with average size of 1/16". It is best for turkeys age 1-5 days or chickens age 1-3 weeks
- Poultry Grit #2 averages 3/16". Recommended for turkeys age 6-21 days and chickens age 4-6 weeks
- Poultry Grit #3 averages 5/16". Recommended for turkeys age 3-8 weeks and chickens age 7+ weeks
- Poultry Grit #4 averages 3/8". Recommended for turkeys age 8+ weeks

When deciding between sizes for your birds, it is usually better to select a larger size than smaller.

How does Cherry Stone Poultry Grit compare to oyster shell?

Cherry Stone Poultry Grit is quartzite rock that does a more thorough job of digestion because it will not dissolve in the crop or the gizzard (parts of the bird's digestive system), upset the mineral balance of feed, or neutralize digestive juices. Birds are attracted to the pink-gray color. Crushed oyster shell is a source of supplemental calcium to produce strong bones and good egg shells, but it will dissolve in the digestive tract so it should not be used as a replacement for poultry grit. Although most modern poultry laying feeds contain sufficient calcium, many in the poultry industry recommend providing both grit and oyster shell to laying hens for healthier birds. Cherry Stone is insoluble grit while oyster shell is soluble grit. Insoluble grit is used by all poultry after the starter-chick feeding stage; soluble grit is usually only given to laying hens.

Can I mix Cherry Stone Poultry Grit with oyster shell?

Yes, they can be mixed together or provided separately.

Birds pick up stones from the ground, should I spread Cherry Stone Poultry Grit on the ground also?

Although spreading some on the ground can be done, a container that keeps the grit away from the floor to stop birds from kicking muck into the grit is often used. The important part is that the birds have free access to the grit.

**I've bought Cherry Stone for years and now it's in a different bag. Has it changed?**

TCC Materials purchased the Cherry Stone brand in 2012 and began bagging Cherry Stone at their Medford, MN packaging plant where they switched to plastic bags. Additionally, the plant went through a massive expansion where TCC Materials installed all new equipment in order to produce the sizes as specified. The grits are still sourced from the same pit as they have been since the inception of Cherry Stone.

Are there different colors of Cherry Stone?

Cherry Stone is a natural washed and screened product mined out of a vein running from south western Minnesota to eastern South Dakota. As the mining operation moves from one part of the vein to another, slight variations in color tone would be expected.

Why use Cherry Stone Traction Grit?

Cherry Stone Traction Grit works immediately at all temperatures when salt and chemicals won't. The crushed, fine, sharp stones will provide instant traction on ice or compacted snow. Unlike other chemicals, it will not hasten the deterioration of concrete surfaces or harm plants, grass or leave chemicals on pets paws. Apply as needed to walks, steps or other snow-covered or icy pedestrian areas.

Will Cherry Stone harm my concrete?

Cherry Stone Grit is all-natural and environmentally friendly. Because it is insoluble it will not stain concrete. Since it does not contain chemicals or salts it is safe to use on concrete and most surfaces. De-icing chemicals such as calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, and potassium acetate will accelerate deterioration of concrete. For more information on de-icing chemicals and protecting your concrete visit [A Homeowners Guide for Concrete Projects](#).

Could I keep a bag in my car or truck?

Great idea, it will provide additional trunk weight and can be used for emergency winter traction by placing several handfuls under vehicle wheels between icy surface and tires. Since Cherry Stone Traction Grit is made of 100% quartzite, it will not dissolve, become muddy, stain or pollute.

How does Cherry Stone Traction Grit compare to sand or kitty litter for traction?

The hard, sharp aggregate in Cherry Stone provide excellent slip-resistance on icy surfaces. The stone sizes are larger and more angular than traditional sand which is more round in shape. Traction grit is sized to resist sticking into the treads of shoes and boots so the grit doesn't come inside with you as easily. Kitty litter is typically made of clay or limestone, it can dissolve, become soft and muddy making it less effective. Cherry Stone Traction Grit is also easier to sweep-up in the spring when the snow and ice has melted.

What Cherry Stone sizes are available?

Cherry Stone Poultry Grits come in 50 lb. plastic bags and 2,000 lb. bulk bags. Cherry Stone Traction Grit is available in 25 lb. handy bags and 2,000 lb. bulk bags.

Where can I buy Cherry Stone?

Please refer to our website for an interactive map: <http://www.tccmaterials.com/where-to-buy-cherry-stone.cfm>.

How can I become a Cherry Stone Dealer?

For a list of commercial distributors for Cherry Stone, please visit our distributor map at: <http://www.tccmaterials.com/where-to-buy-cherry-stone-distributor.cfm>. Please note that distributors generally sell to retail suppliers in full pallet quantities only.

I am a Cherry Stone dealer or distributor. How can I be listed on your website?

If you are currently stocking Cherry Stone, you can get free leads by getting listed on our where-to-buy interactive maps on our website. Please fill out the form found on the "Resources" tab of our website at www.cherrystonegrit.com or [click here](#).