

## 6.0 PROTECTION

The site control of environmental conditions should be maintained after completion of the stonework, until the longest curing time of the materials has lapsed.

Completed stonework should be protected from any traffic, direct sunlight exposure and rain. The completed work should be allowed to cure in well-ventilated and dry conditions, at a duration recommended by the stone suppliers and adhesive manufacturers. Covering the completed work too soon may cause stains or watermarks to appear. Protection can be done by covering the completed area with appropriate protective materials that are suitable to the area of usage. For a more robust protection, it is recommended to provide an up-turn around the perimeter as shown in Figure 6.

Avoid any high impact vibrations and hammering on adjacent and/or backside of walls throughout the duration of curing of materials. It is also important for contractors to communicate between various trades to prevent damages and unnecessary reworks. Establishing a trade working timeframe would be helpful towards achieving an ideal curing process and preventing work conflict between trades.

The protective material should only be removed just prior to handing over to property owners.



Completed stonework protected with protective material



Protection with an up-turn



Completed works protected by restricting access

Figure 6. Protection