



SLATED

THE HAMMOND FAMILY HAVE BEEN MASTER SLATE CRAFTSMEN SINCE THE 18TH CENTURY, SO WHILE IT MAY HAVE BEEN A HAPPY ACCIDENT THAT STARTED THEIR HOMEWARE ACCESSORIES LINE SLATED, IT WAS A NATURAL ONE FOR TARA HAMMOND, WHO RUNS THE BUSINESS WITH HER HUSBAND, ED

How did Slated come about? In 2010 during a family gathering, I created a freshly cut slate as a table runner and we became intrigued by the possibilities of slate tableware. My cousin was a chef and requested serving plates for his restaurant. It was then we began to properly research the idea. Food safety compliance and finish was of the utmost importance. We also felt it was an amazing way to give the family trade a new edge, while keeping the traditional methods alive – the Hammond family have been master slate craftsmen since the 18th century.

What is the process for creating your products? The irregularities and different colour and mineral content of the stone make slate a beautiful natural product to design with, and each piece is perfectly unique. Utilising the traditional methods, artisan techniques and of course the original 150-year-old slater's knife, each piece from the Slated range is meticulously handcrafted to enhance the originality and natural elegance of the collection. This is the distinct advantage that Slated has, because all of our pieces are hand-cut we can produce different shapes and sizes and this is what makes our bespoke service thrive.

What inspires your designs? Our designs are inspired by the beauty of the stone and additional materials which complement it. We put meticulous research into the production of each new range. The marriage of natural materials is fascinating, especially when they flatter each other perfectly. Our copper and slate candle holders have been a huge success, as have our range of wood and slate products, the newest being our Lazy Susan. All of our designs benefit from the time and care taken in creating them. We are currently working on a new product that is six months in the making as we keep tweaking until we are sure it is a very special piece.
www.slated.ie

SOLID CREATIONS

KLARA HERON MEETS THE ENTREPRENEURS BEHIND THE ROCK SOLID CRAFT BUSINESSES USING STONE AND SLATE TO MAKE BEAUTIFUL HOME ACCESSORIES

IRISH WHISKEY STONES

WHISKEY AFICIONADOS ARE SURE TO APPRECIATE IRISH WHISKEY STONES, MADE FROM CONNEMARA MARBLE AND DESIGNED TO KEEP YOUR DRINK COOL WITHOUT DILUTING THE FLAVOUR. WE SPOKE TO MASTER STONE MASON ERIC BYRNE

How did Irish Whiskey Stones come about?
The idea of whiskey stones or chilling stones is actually an ancient Scandinavian tradition of using small pebbles to chill spirits rather than pieces of

ice, as when ice melts the beverage is diluted and this can affect the balance of flavours of the drink and diminish the enjoyment of it. The development of Irish Whiskey Stones originated from a collaboration between our business Hennessy & Byrne and design business Makers & Brothers back in 2012.

What is the process for making the stones?
The whiskey stones are made from authentic Connemara Marble which is sourced from Joyce's

