



# Premier Surfacing

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## **BLOCK PAVING AFTERCARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE**

## **HOW TO MAINTAIN YOUR BLOCK PAVING DRIVEWAY**

One of the most popular driveway surface options available is block paving, as it's a durable surface material that provides a cost-effective way to really enhance the look of your home. However, like all surfaces, they need to be maintained and looked after over the years, to maximise their potential and keep them looking fresh for as long as possible.

### ***Weeds***

Weeds can be resilient and unsightly, and if left unchecked, they can start to become an overwhelming presence on your driveway. They can grow in the gaps between the paving blocks, which in time, can affect the paving's long-term durability. They can be pulled out or killed with a weeding spray product, which is available in most DIY stores. Apply the weed killer periodically for the best results.

### ***Jet Washing***

Jet washing is very useful for removing loose dirt and stones from your block paving drive, but there is a caveat that you should angle the jet washer at 45 degrees, so as to avoid dislodging the sand between the blocks.

### ***Block Paving Cleaners***

To freshen up the surface of your block paving, you don't always need specialist cleaning equipment – just good, old fashioned soap and water should remove most stains. Using dishwashing liquid and warm will do the trick but check the label of the cleaning product you are using to ensure it is suitable for use on materials such as limestone and marble. After using any cleaning products on the paving, inspect the integrity of the joints, and re-sand or re-point any damage if necessary.

When it comes to treating your block paving with cleaner, chemicals or acids, it is important that you:

- Wear protective clothing.
- Ensure sufficient ventilation in the area.
- Use extra care to avoid damaging or staining adjoining materials.
- Remember to always add acid to water when diluting, not the other way around.
- Safely dispose of any clothing that has been stained with chemicals.
- Dispose of any excess run off material.

### ***Brushing***

Before employing the soap and water technique, give your driveway the once-over with a dry brush. This will help remove loose dirt without turning it into mud, making it much easier for the jet washer or the soapy water to work its magic.

## ***Staining***

Unfortunately, oil stains can occur if your driveway is used to park cars on, and they can be unsightly. If you discover oil stains on your driveway, then it is important that you obtain a specialist oil remover product to ensure the best possible results. For light stains, neat washing up liquid, scrubbed thoroughly and then rinsed with hot water might do the trick, but for stubborn stains, you will need a specialist product. Focus on establishing the source of any staining too. For example, an oil leak on a car, or the rust on iron gutters; take steps to repair it sooner rather than later as taking action early will help avoid further staining and possible damage.

**Please note:** The information provided in the booklet is intended only as a guide, formal procedures should be developed considering the particular circumstances applicable. Always trial any treatment on an unobtrusive area first to assess suitability. Premier Surfacing assumes no responsibility for improper reliance upon misuse of the information. Appropriate precautions should be taken when using chemicals and advice sought from the statutory authority for their correct disposal.