



# HORIZON

## INTERNATIONAL LTD

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### Maintaining my Paving

All pavements are subject to spillages and soiling and a build-up of dirt and grime. The careless use of cement type materials during the laying of a pavement can also lead to soiling.

Frequent sweeping and washing reduces the effect of dirt and grime and maintains the attractiveness of a pavement.

Sealing of paving allows for ease of future cleaning and maintenance. Whilst no paver can be guaranteed to be 100% stain free for life, sealed pavers will provide a significantly very high level of stain resistance.

Sealing of Pavers can be carried out at several times through your contract

1. **Recommended** Pre-sealing pavers before installation
2. After installation and before grouting
3. After completion of installation grouting

The success of any sealed job is dependent on many factors e.g. (weather and temperature on the day, dryness of tiles, use of the right tools, following the supplier's instructions for applying the sealer).

When sealing pavers, it is important to ensure the sealer does not alter the degree of slip resistance you want for the surface finish in your particular situation.

The main purpose of sealing is protect the surface and to ease cleaning and maintenance. The tiles do require ongoing resealing. Resealing should not be required within ten years from first application. How often depends on site specific conditions such as exposure to sunlight, amount of wear to the surface (e.g. foot traffic) and the quality of the sealer.

### Frequent Questions when sealing

1. What sealer do you use?

We use and recommend Guardit Dense Sealer, this is a long-life water based penetrating sealer designed to provide protection from marking staining materials.

2. My paver doesn't appear to bead up?

The beading on the surface is what is known as surface tension, in layman's terms it is residue left on the surface of the paver. This is not designed to last any early trafficking breaks that material. This is not an issue, as a penetrating sealer this material is not designed to stay on the surface but to penetrate the stone and block staining material. On cast not pressed pavers initial beading is unlikely due reduced product density.

3. Leaf residue, bird pool and other organic material appears to mark the surface.

This is correct, as these have tannins, when left the tannin goes to liquid it enters the micro pores on the surface. The good news is that after sealing this material will not enter the paver and stain but doesn't need to be removed. If you leave the suns UV will do this, alternatively you can use a little household bleach to fast track this process.

4. Can I waterblast my paving?

Yes a light powerwash is fine, we recommend avoiding the joints to avoid damaging the joints. Horizon can also recommend organic cleaning products for more stubborn marking.

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