



## **APPLICATION GUIDE FOR SMARTSEAL BLOCK PAVING SEALERS**

### **PREPARATION**

#### **NEW PAVING:**

- Ensure all areas of paving to be sealed is clean, dust free and that no efflorescence (surface whiteness) is present.
- If efflorescence is visible its important to treat with efflorescence remover, then wash down thoroughly with clean water. Allow 4-6 weeks after treatment to so that efflorescence does not re-appear.

#### **EXISTING PAVING:**

- All forms of existing paved surfaces must be clean, free of stains, dust, algae, weeds and efflorescence.
- For optimum results, treat the paving with fungicidal wash prior to cleaning with a pressure washer. During the cleaning process ensure any mud and 'muck' is removed from deep within the joints to allow for at least 30mm of fresh sand to be brushed back into the joints.
- If efflorescence (surface whiteness) is present, proceed as stated in the 'New Paving' section above.

### **FINAL PREPARATION**

- Check that pavers are dry below the surface by scraping out the sand between the blocks to a depth of 10– 15mm. If the sand is dry, the blocks will now be ready for sealing.
- With a sanding broom sweep additional kiln dry sand into all joints. Ensure there is no surplus sand on the face of the blocks or bevelled edges.
- Protect areas such as flowerbeds, ponds and adjacent areas from splashing.
- Ensure temperature is between 7-23 degrees and that no rain is forecast for at least 8 hours.

## **APPLICATION**

- Wear protective gloves, mask, goggles, boots and suitable clothing at all times.
- Use 4" paint brush to apply sealant to borders.
- Coat main area with Smartseal roller kit or sprayer
- We recommend applying 2 coats for maximum protection and leave approx 2 hours between applications
- To minimise possible adverse effects of moisture it is best to re-sand sand the block paving joints and apply both coats of sealer on the same day.
- Apply at a ratio of approx. 2 sq metres per litre (1st coat) to ensure good penetration into joints and approx. 3.5 sq metres per litre on the 2nd coat. Once sealing is complete do not walk on for approx 2 hours with no vehicular access for 24hours.

## **MAINTENANCE**

SMARTSEAL Block Paving Sealers are designed to help minimise maintenance for the homeowner but as with all paving products, some degree of routine maintenance\* is necessary to prevent build up of lichen, stains or algae growth.

\*We recommend a treatment of Fungicidal Wash and brushing the joints between the pavers and a gentle wash of the paved area once or twice a year after sealing to keep the paving in optimum condition.

SMARTSEAL Block Paving Sealers are designed to be re-applied as and when required. To keep in optimum condition a top-up coat of sealer is generally advisable every 2-5 years. The paving should be clean and free of grease or oil before any application.

SMARTSEAL Block Paving Sealers can be re-applied at any time if the paving is clean and dry. This allows areas of high wear to be re-treated if required.

Any spillages of oil based products should be removed as soon as possible with biological degreasant to avoid any dry stains forming.

To minimise moss or algae growth in areas at risk such north facing and shady areas, underneath hanging baskets, adjacent to borders or overhanging trees, the area should be treated with Fungicidal Wash. An annual treatment of the paving with Fungicidal Wash and gentle power washing is recommended in most cases.

Sand joints which are disturbed by heavy trafficking can be replaced and SMARTSEAL Block Paving Sealer re-applied to the jointing sand in small amounts to make good.

SMARTSEAL Block Paving Sealers is manufactured as a matt finish 'in-surface' seal, but where over-application occurs, removal of excess sealer is a simple task using Cleaning Solvent. This will prevent any reduction in the slip resistance of the block paving.

Any spillages or for cleaning of tools, sprayer units or containers can be carried out using Cleaning Solvent. Cellulose thinners will not be effective and should be avoided.

For advice and technical information on any aspect of using SMARTSEAL Block Paving Sealers please contact the Technical Department on **0845 618 2771**