

SEALING TIPS

There are two (2) types of basic sealers: penetrating sealers and surface sealers.

Penetrating Sealers

This type of sealer penetrates the concrete matrix and forms a water proofing barrier. In most cases penetrating sealer leaves the paver surface with a natural appearance. It does not enhance the colour.

Benefit of Penetrating Sealer

Water does not penetrate the paving unit which in turn minimises the growth of mould.

Downside of Penetrating Sealer

In the tropics penetrating sealers have a short water proofing life . They may last up to three (3) months before the pavers require an additional treatment. Staining to the surface will occur if organic materials are left on the surface. For instance, dead leaves and berries falling on the surface and allowed to get wet. Staining will also occur when food or drink is spilt on the surface.

Surface Sealers

This type of sealer leaves a glossy or wet look appearance to the surface of paving.

Benefits of Surface Sealer

The surface is impervious to water and most liquids. Most spillages are able to be readily cleaned with household detergents. Surface sealers have a long water proofing life. It has been known to protect the paver surface for up to three (3) years.

Downside of Surface Sealer

Pavers may become slippery when wet. The addition of glass beads to the second coat of sealer is recommended to provide slip resistance. Should the pavers be in an area where excess water is not freely drained a milky or dark staining may occur beneath the sealer surface. This may range from small white spotting or dark random staining to significant portions of the paving unit having a milky appearance. In most instances when allowed to dry completely the staining effect may disappear or will be greatly reduced.

ONLY APPLY ANY SEALER TO COMPLETELY DRY PAVERS.

This may take days to dry the units completely in full sunlight. Providing good drainage to the paved area will significantly reduce the instance of water staining. When laying in a mortar bed a 15mm notched trowel is used and the direction of the raked notches should be in the same line as the fall. Going across the fall will allow water to be retained in the valleys of the mortar. Do not seal the bottom or sides of pool coping as this may reduce the bond strength (adhesion of the copers to the concrete substrate).

Check with your reputable sealer provider to ensure compatibility with project.