

hydropave

maintenance

v1.0



For optimum performance we recommend that paving is cleaned twice a year.

1 Fill the joints

When permeable paving is first laid we often find that there is some settlement of the jointing material and so it is important to top up these joints with 6.3 –2 mm grit after a few weeks. Indeed, it is also important that, at any time during the life of the pavement, the joints are kept full of grit. Please check carefully that you are using the correct grade of jointing grit.

WARNING – do not replace the jointing grit with sand as the sand will block the joints and stop the permeable system from working.

2 Vacuum sweepers

Please do not use vacuum sweepers as they can suck the grit out of the joints.

3 The surface layer (Hydropave blocks)

Initial Cleaning

When an area has just been paved, please allow it to settle for a few weeks. Then, you may wish to lightly hose down the paving to remove any excess dirt. The area should then be treated with a weed killer suppressant, two or three times a year as required.

General Dirt

Regular sweeping to prevent the build up of detritus is recommended. Light coloured blocks, emphasise tyre marks and oil spills on the pavement. It must be accepted that these products will need more maintenance if the overall appearance is to be maintained.

A light power hose at medium pressure is generally all that is required to clean general dirt and grime. Any jointing grit, which has been removed must be replaced. Do not use high pressure power washers as aggressive power-washing can damage the product surface and dislodge the jointing grit.

The joints between the Hydropave blocks

It is important to ensure that the grit filled joints do not become blocked, as the water will not be able to flow into the sub-base. Experience has shown that joints have good permeability for many years. However, it is good practice to brush the joints with a stiff brush, to break the crust of detritus, which inevitably forms at the top of a joint. This simple exercise improves the permeability significantly.

Care should be taken that the permeable joints do not become contaminated at the construction phase and special care needs to be taken with soft landscaping to ensure that soil does not enter the joints.

How to clean clogged joints

If the joints on a paved surface have been badly contaminated and clogged it may be necessary to clean them thoroughly. This can be done as follows:

- Remove existing jointing grit and detritus by high pressure water jet.
- Reset the pavers, which will have become displaced. Replace any damaged pavers at this time since they will have been loosened.
- Apply 6.3-2mm single size grit to the joints, using a stiff brush to sweep the material in ensuring joints are filled.
- **WARNING** – do not replace the jointing grit with sand as this will stop the permeable system from working.

4 The sub-base below the Hydropave blocks

We would strongly advise not to disrupt the sub-base below the Hydropave blocks. This sub-base is specially designed for each particular site. If you have no alternative but to disrupt the sub-base please speak to the contractor prior to disruption so you can receive clear guidance on how to reinstall the material in the correct formation.

In the event of any material being lifted and reinstated, please use the following Material Specification:

Paving blocks & jointing grit	Tobermore have a wide range of Hydropave blocks available and they have a permeability of 1800 litres/sec/hectare which more than meets the 180 litres/sec/hectare requirement. The blocks are jointed using a 6.3-2mm grit to BS EN13242:2002*.
Bedding layer	The blocks are laid on a 6.3-2mm grit** to BS EN13242:2002.
Sub-base	A clean 4/20mm coarse graded aggregate** to BS EN13242:2002 must be used for this component. A crushed rock angular stone works best.



* In particular, the material should be categorised as LA20 according to Table 9, SZ18 according to Table 10 and MDE15 according to Table 11 within this standard. The grit should be insoluble in dilute hydrochloric acid and should be naturally occurring material.

** You must ensure the grit and coarse graded aggregate are compatible. For example, if you use a finer grit it may percolate into the sub-base and may destabilise the pavement. Please refer to the following source of information – BS7533-13:2009 Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers. Guide for the structural design of permeable pavements.