

# Guidelines for the installation of Tobermore City Pave VS5

## **City Pave VS5 should be installed in accordance to BS 7533-3:2005+A1:2009**

'Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers. Code of practice for laying precast concrete paving blocks and clay pavers for flexible pavements.'

## **For design advice on heavy duty pavements please refer to BS 7533-1:2001**

'Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers. Guide for the structural design of heavy duty pavements constructed of clay or concrete pavers.'

## **Specific City Pave VS5 installation points in association with BS7533-3:2005**

### **1. If installing over an impermeable roadbase**

Please refer to Appendix A

### **2. When installing the bedding layer**

a. Please refer to BS 7533-3 for the appropriate bedding sand to use. For example a Category 1 bedding sand is used for higher levels of traffic.

b. Spread out the loose material in a uniform layer. Screed it using the screed rails to a thickness that, after compaction, achieves the 30mm design thickness whilst meeting the +10/-5mm surface level tolerance of BS 7533-3, Annex B. The 30mm design thickness is measured from the underside of the corrugated base of the City Pave VS5 blocks. Sand will push up into the corrugated base when the blocks are compacted down.

c. Do not compact the laying course before laying the City Pave VS5 blocks. If you do then the corrugated base of the blocks will 'sit on top' of the laying course (rather than bedding into it). This will leave voids under the blocks. Jointing material could work down into these when the pavement is opened to traffic and you will not achieve the full structural benefit of the corrugated base.

### **3. When installing the City Pave VS5 Blocks**

a. The profiling on the underside of the blocks should, where possible, run parallel to the main direction of travel where it will minimise movement of pavers towards the edge of the roadway.

b. Where there are multiple directions of travel crossing an area consider a herringbone pattern.

c. Herringbone patterns should be considered for tight bends and curves in roads.

d. Lightly bed blocks down but do not yet attempt to compact them fully either with a maul or a vibrating plate.

e. City Pave VS5 blocks should be laid so that the spacers are interlocked.

f. Do not force any blocks into place. In particular NEVER strike blocks with Irons as this may weaken their surfaces. These could then spall when the pavement is opened to traffic.

g. Careful planning prior to installation can help to avoid or reduce the need for cutting. If cutting is required then where necessary inboard cutting should be used. When the cutting of a block is required the flat side of the cut should be placed neatly and hand tight against the kerb edge.

h. Remember that blocks cut/split to less than a quarter of their size are not acceptable.

### **4. Pre-fill joints before compacting the surface**

a. Clean the surface of any remaining loose material, taking care not to move or otherwise disturb the City Pave VS5 blocks.

b. Fill the joints between the City Pave VS5 blocks with jointing sand as specified in BS7533-3:2005.

### **5. Compact the surface**

a. Compact the City Pave VS5 block surface to refusal using a minimum 200kg vibrating plate as BS 7533-3 Annex F for Site Categories I and II. Do not use the lighter 120kg option. Make no fewer than 2 passes. Ensure you use a neoprene cover (on the plate) to the plate to avoid damaging the blocks.

### **6. Top up the joints**

a. Apply more jointing sand as specified in BS7533-3:2005.

b. Complete 2 further passes of the surface with the same neoprene covered vibrating plate.

c. Check the joints between the City Pave VS5 blocks to confirm they remain full to the top. Repeat this step if they are not.

d. As with all precast concrete pavements, during the longer term service life of the pavement, cleansing and other activities are likely to result in some jointing material being removed. Where this occurs joints should be re-topped as before.

### **7. Removal procedures**

Please refer to BS 7533-11:2003. Code of practice for the opening, maintenance and reinstatement of pavements of concrete, clay and natural stone.

### **APPENDIX A**

If installing over an impermeable roadbase then please consider one of the two options listed below to ensure that surface water does not work its way into the pavement via joints between the surface blocks and liquefy the laying course, causing it to pump out. This is an important consideration for all concrete block paving products and is not exclusive to City Pave VS5.

#### **Option 1**

Resiblock is a sealing product which can be used once the paving is completed. Please contact Resiblock for specific product recommendations.

#### **Option 2**

Perforate the roadbase

a. If the base course is bituminous then it is important that it is made permeable before installing the laying course.

b. To do this, perforate the installed bituminous base course by coring through to the interface with the sub-base using a 75mm diameter rotary core on a 750mm orthogonal grid (just as is required for a DBM base forming part of a pervious block pavement as BS 7533-13).

c. Ensure each core goes all the way through the base course to expose the top of the subbase - but does not go more than 4mm further.

d. Remove and dispose of the cores and any loose bituminous debris from the hole.

e. Fill each hole to the top with L-SS1 sand. Compact this material down using one or more passes with a vibrating plate.

f. After compacting, check that each hole remains full to the top with the material. If not, top-up and repeat.

g. Ensure the surface of the prepared base course continues to meet BS 7533-3 Annex B levels requirements (see Step 1) and is cleaned of loose material.

Please refer to BS 7533-1 for more details on installing over an impermeable roadbase.

g. Ensure the surface of the prepared base course continues to meet BS 7533-3 Annex B levels requirements (see Step 1) and is cleaned of loose

# Instructions & Warnings

## As referred to in Tobermore's Conditions of Sale

### CORE TERMS (PAVING & WALLING)

#### Product

All products should be carefully inspected for defects or damage upon delivery and prior to being laid or fitted.

#### Product Information

Within Tobermore, design and development of products is a continuing process, and product information is subject to change without notice. Accordingly, please check with Tobermore to ensure that the product information you have represents the most up-to-date product information.

#### Delivery

Tobermore will ship your products as soon as they are ready, due to yard storage restrictions all products must be delivered within 28 days of the material being ready for delivery.

#### Prior to Installation

Prior to opening the packs check that all the batch code labels match. The batch code labels can be found on the outer packaging. For example, 04D22N.

It is good practice to sort products to ensure consistency of colour, texture and dimensional tolerance. Any defects must be reported without delay. If products are installed with any form of defect which was clearly apparent prior to installation the installer will be responsible for all costs incurred to rectify the issue.

#### Installation

All products should be installed in accordance with the latest British Standard.

#### Colour & Texture

Tobermore produces paving and walling products with excellent density and durability. All products are manufactured in batches using naturally extracted raw materials including aggregates, pigments and cement etc. Products such as Braemar, Sienna, Fusion, Mayfair Flags, Manhattan, City Pave and Fusion Kerbs are manufactured using premium naturally occurring granite aggregates. To achieve their final appearance some products undergo secondary processes, this involves shot blasting or grinding the surface of the product.

Whilst we have several factory procedures in place to help control shade, colour and texture within and between batches we cannot guarantee consistency. This is due to the natural materials and secondary processes. Therefore, slight variations in the finished products is normal between and within batches. These variations actually enhance the character and natural beauty of the products. Taking delivery of orders within 28 days can reduce the likelihood of variations.

To achieve the best possible finish we recommend the following advice is followed to evenly distribute any slight variations in shade, colour and texture over a large area.

When the circumstances allow complete one area of paving, one retaining wall or one house / building by using products taken from the same batch. This is achieved by checking the batch code label displayed on the packs.

Always, thoroughly mix products from a minimum of three packs.

Where products are supplied in packs with vertical slices always take them "vertically slice by slice" this ensures that colours are distributed evenly.

When the circumstances do not allow the use of products from the same batch then it is extremely important to minimise possible colour banding / shading by always, thoroughly mixing products from a minimum of three packs concurrently with some overlap between deliveries / batches.

Where products from different batches are being installed in the same area of paving, wall or building it is the installers responsibility to carry out a colour match check by comparing colours from each batch. If a noticeable variance in colour / shade or texture is visible, do not proceed with the installation and contact your supplier for further guidance.

Mixing thoroughly from a minimum of three packs is of particular importance when installing single colours such as Golden, Buff, Natural, Charcoal, Graphite, Silver, Mid-Grey, Sandstone, Alto Silver, Aaron Stone, Jura Grey and Innis Black.

During installation the installer must make regular visual checks to ensure the blending of colours is consistent.

We would always recommend that when purchasing products, especially in larger quantities, that they are all ordered at the same time.

Please note that the colour of new products will inevitably vary compared to those that have been installed for a period of time as weathering does take place.

All colour illustrations are as accurate as the printing process will allow. For a more accurate colour match please refer to actual product samples, which can be provided.

Colours and textures illustrated are representations and therefore should not be expected to be an exact match.

The overall visual appearance of a completed installation should only be assessed from the normal viewing distance. Variations in colour/shade and texture are technically harmless, do not affect the products performance and are not deemed to be a product defect.

We will not be held liable for any discolouration or staining caused to product which has been stored incorrectly.

Note: Whilst we strive to ensure consistency, complimentary products such as Kerb Specials, Step Flags, Facing Brick Specials, Historic Circles etc. may not be an exact colour / texture or shade match to the standard version of the product as they will have been manufactured at varying times using different processes.

#### Tegula

Tegula is manufactured using a secondary process that distresses the edges and corners of the blocks to give the desired aged antique appearance. The process randomly distresses the blocks, therefore some blocks will be more distressed than others will, this is completely normal and does not affect the product performance.

#### Staining

Some chemicals that are commonly used in gardens such as lawn feed containing Ferrous Sulphate can stain concrete products. Any chemicals that are spilt must be removed immediately by rinsing away with clean water. Please check the information on the instruction label of the container holding the chemical.

#### Moisture

Occasionally, after installation, some units may show variations in shade and have a patchy appearance. This is due to the varying amounts of moisture within the concrete and the ground. The drying out process of concrete continues in-situ after installation. Some units may also retain more moisture than neighbouring units and take longer to dry out. This is caused by the variations in density of the naturally extracted aggregates used in the

manufacturing process. Given time and natural weathering, the capillaries within the surface of the concrete will gradually close and any patches or moisture retention will dissipate as the product matures. This does not affect long-term performance.

#### Efflorescence

Efflorescence is a crystalline deposit that occurs naturally on the surface of concrete materials. It usually appears as a white deposit but can also be brown or yellow in appearance. Tobermore use market-leading technology to significantly suppress the occurrence of efflorescence, however, if it occurs, it may mask the colour of the product for a period of time, but tends to be washed away gradually by rain. Tobermore do not replace products with efflorescence. Packs of products which have had packaging removed should always be re-covered with appropriate packaging to prevent the occurrence of secondary efflorescence.

#### Surface Scratches

Minor scuffs or bruises may occur during delivery, movement onsite, and installation (for example, during any plate vibrating process). In Tobermore's experience, these marks usually weather off through time. (EasyClean products are protected with a glue dot)

To reduce the risk of surface scratches we strongly recommend the use of a vibrating plate with a rubber protective mat.

#### Ordering

To avoid waste, please ensure that your contractor accurately measures the area on site before ordering products. In Tobermore's experience, dimensions taken from a project plan can vary significantly from the final layout.

Depending on the layout of the project, we recommend ordering an additional 2 - 5% of material to allow for cutting, detailing and wastage.

#### Manufacturing & Quality Systems

Tobermore is a BS EN ISO 9001, BS EN ISO 14001 and BES 6001 registered company. Tobermore uses an integrated management system to manage all health & safety and environmental issues.

#### Product Maintenance

Routine cleaning and maintenance is required to keep the overall appearance of products in pristine condition.

All concrete products can develop algae, lichen, and moss growths due to environmental conditions and may require cleaning. Areas adjacent to plant borders and trees may discolour from transfer of plant-life. Tobermore cannot accept responsibility for any of these conditions.

#### Queries & Complaints

Please contact one of Tobermore's Paving & Walling Centres or offices (contact details at [www.tobermore.co.uk](http://www.tobermore.co.uk)) with any queries or complaints. Any complaints must be notified to Tobermore without delay.

### CORE TERMS (PAVING ONLY)

Paving installed unbound should have a close joint width of 2-5mm to allow for the dimensional tolerances of products and to create a gap to allow the brushing in of kiln dried jointing sand. The straightness of lines will be dependent on workmanship and product tolerances. String lines must be used to help achieve straight lines.

Tobermore do not recommend Butt jointing as this will make achieving straight lines more difficult.

#### Product Maintenance

Light coloured paving blocks and flags emphasise tyre marks and oil spills on the driveway. Please note that these products will need more maintenance if overall appearance is to be maintained.

#### Initial Cleaning

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

#### General Cleaning

Paving requires regular maintenance, including regular sweeping to prevent the build up of detritus. Tobermore recommends that paving is cleaned 2-3 times per year.

For general cleaning of dirt and algae, vigorous brushing with a stiff yard brush with plenty of hot detergent solution (washing up liquid or non-bio washing powder), thoroughly rinsed with clean water, should suffice. Repeated treatment may be required for paved areas sited beneath trees or in permanent/near permanent shade.

A light power hose at medium pressure is generally all that is required to clean general dirt and grime. Any jointing material which is removed must be replaced. Do not use high pressure powerwashers as aggressive power-washing can damage the product surface. A trial area should be tested before large scale powerwashing takes place.

(Important: EasyClean products should not be pressure washed. Please refer to specific EasyClean information)

#### Moss, Lichen and Algae

Thick growths of moss or lichen must be removed first by scraping out the joints and then treating the area with a moss killer such as anti-moss paving cleaner. Anti-moss is designed to remove moss, lichens and algae. It is best applied in dry weather. After being applied it will take a few days to be fully effective. Once the moss and lichens have been killed, they can easily be brushed off. Anti-moss also leaves a residue in the sand joint which will help reduce the likelihood of re-growth. The manufacturer's instructions should always be followed when using any cleaning agent.

#### Weeds

Large weeds should be removed by hand and then the area treated with a weed killer (available from any good garden centre). Smaller weeds can then be treated directly with weed killer and these weeds should start to die within days. The manufacturer's instructions should always be followed when using any weed killing agent.

#### Block Paving Sealer

It is possible to seal block paving with a resin material which combats staining and weed growth and which also enhances colour and appearance. The acrylic sealer is sprayed onto the block paving and forms a 'skin' on top of the paving and the jointing material giving an easily maintained finish. The manufacturer's instructions should always be followed when using any sealing agent. (Important: Do not use sealers on EasyClean products)