

## INTRODUCTION

The following notes are intended for general guidance on the cleaning and maintenance of the Aqua Fend® treated, paved or façade surface, and are not intended to be exhaustive.

Aqua Fend® is a protective impregnating fluoro-polymer, which is invisible to the naked eye. The treatment sits within the pavement or facade interstices, protecting the substrate from staining and contamination.

Aqua Fend® treated surfaces will continue to suffer surface contamination, due to the same reasons a non-treated surface would. However, these contaminants remain on the surface and are easily removed by normal cleaning methods, returning the surface to an original condition.



## CLEANING OF PAVING

### General dirt and detritus

General dirt and detritus will continue to build up upon a Aqua Fend® treated surface in the same manner as a non-treated. It is recommended that general surface dirt and detritus are removed using regular pavement sweeping and pavement scrubbing apparatus and techniques.

## Moss and algae

Moss and algae can form upon and within porous paving stone types, especially within areas of heavy shading, under trees, and where draining is not adequate.

After [Aqua Fend®](#) treatments, moss and algae will not form in many instances where it previously did so. Due to [Aqua Fend®](#) preventing the ingress of water and moisture into the porous intestacies, the moss and algae will not have the moisture levels required to form.

If such growth does continue to occur and is considered undesirable, the area should be treated with a proprietary cleaner suitable for the purpose, used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

## Oil stains

Oil penetrates rapidly into porous stone paving leaving very visible and undesirable stains. Such stains are very difficult to remove and often require specialist oil digestive treatments.

On a [Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface, the oil will not penetrate the surface for a period of 48 hours. After this time, the oil breaks down into its natural components, which will penetrate and stain the surface in the same way as non-treated paving.

In the event of an oil spillage on a [Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface, the liquid should be absorbed or removed as quickly as possible. Once removed, the paving's top surface level may have some evidence of staining. This should be removed by rinsing the surface, or failing successful removal with a gentle rinsing process, the surface should be scrubbed with a detergent.

Should oil staining be uncleaned beyond a 48-hour window on a [Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface, or located on a non-[Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface, specialist cleaning techniques and additives will be required.

## Chewing gum

Chewing gum is one of the most difficult substances to remove from any non-[Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface. On non-treated surfaces, chewing gum deposits can be removed through scraping or freezing, although the most common and effective method is to use pressurised and heated water.

Heated pressure washing is expensive, health and safety restrictive, and intrusive to the surrounding areas. Specialist chewing gum removal services operate throughout the UK.

On a [Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface, the chewing gum deposits will not bond to the surface as strongly as the moisture cannot penetrate the paving. Furthermore, [Aqua Fend®](#) possesses nonstick properties.

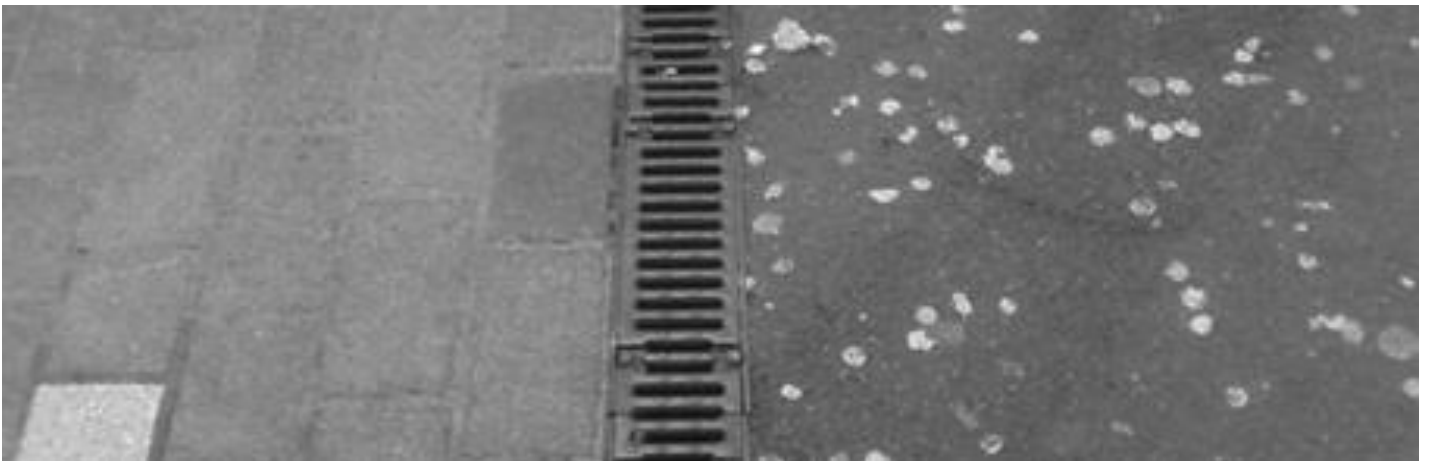
Newly discarded chewing gum will continue to stick on all surface types. However, on smoother surfaces, the chewing gum will be easily peeled from the surface once the deposits dry.

On smooth surfaces such as Yorkstone and Granite, standard street scrubbing will remove the majority of the chewing gum deposits. Some chewing gum deposits will also naturally peel from the surface under foot traffic pressure.

On more coarse surfaces such as Andover, it may be required to use scraping or pressure washing to remove chewing gum deposits. However the activity will be much quicker and pressure levels can be significantly reduced.

Should a heated pressure washing cleaning system be utilised, this will not affect the [Aqua Fend®](#) performance or guarantee in any way.

The “impression marks” often left by chewing gum deposits after removal, will no longer occur on a [Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface.



#### Scuff marks from vehicle tires

On non-[Aqua Fend®](#) treated paving, tyre marks can be removed by steam cleaning. On [Aqua Fend®](#) surfaces, it is possible to remove such marks by scrubbing the surface using mechanical street scrubbers.

Tyre marks will also not materialise on a [Aqua Fend®](#) treated surface as strongly as a non-treated surface.



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#### Food and beverage stains

Many liquid stains will soak into the paving capillaries of a non-Aqua Fend® treated surface, producing staining and discolouration. Aqua Fend® treated surfaces will not allow penetration keeping all staining at surface level.

#### Acid cleaning or strongly abrasive cleaning techniques

Should it be deemed necessary to use acid cleaning techniques, or any technique which dissolves or forcefully erodes the top level of paved surface, the Aqua Fend® treatment will be eroded in the same manner as the surface. Such techniques are extreme, usually damaging to paving appearance, and would not be recommended by Urban Surface Protection. However, they will not prevent Aqua Fend® from working unless the paving is eroded past the original saturation point.

#### Efflorescence/lime bloom

There are many forms of efflorescence which have little in common, other than the fact that they result in a white discolouration. Efflorescence, as generally found upon concrete paving products, is known as 'lime bloom.' It is a surface deposit on the concrete, seen either in the form of white patches or as a more general lightening in colour. When the latter effect is seen it is often misinterpreted as a fading or 'washing out' of the colour of pigmented concrete.

Efflorescence/lime bloom will not be visible on Aqua Fend® treated surfaces.

### Mechanical scrubbing

To remove the majority of surface stains and blemishes, standard mechanical street scrubbing will achieve the desired result.

Aqua Fend® recommends that equipment should be purpose designed to sweep the particular area. If there is any doubt regarding suitability the vehicle manufacturer should be consulted.

Brushes used should be Polypropylene, not wire.

### Lifting the paving

Once a surface has been treated with Aqua Fend®, the area will enjoy its benefits for a minimum of a 5-year period.

During this period, the surface can be lifted and re-laid. Aqua Fend® will continue work to the same standard, as long as the treated face remains the correct way up.