

Guidelines for the installation of Tobermore Block Paving

These are basic guidelines on how to install block paving, please refer to the relevant British Standard for more information, details on reverse.

Preparing the sub-base

The sub-base should be well compacted and any uneven areas in the surface should be graded out, thus leaving a fine finish which allows for gradients and falls. The material used for each application can vary according to the condition of the sub-grade. Your laying contractor can advise you accordingly.

1 20-40mm of sharp sand or grit is screeded and levelled over the sub-base.

2 The sharp sand is compacted over the sub-base using a plate vibrator.

3 The blocks are laid on top of the compacted sand or grit.

4 Dried sand or grit is brushed over the surface to fill the joints.

5 A plate vibrator is passed over the area to ensure joints are filled with jointing sand.

Important notes

Edge restraint

It is essential that the paved area is restrained at the edges to prevent movement. The edge restraints prevent rotation of the blocks under load reducing the possible loss of laying course material at boundaries and resists lateral movement.

Laying course

If grit is used as the laying course, then fine sand must not be used for jointing as the fine sand can percolate into the bedding layer causing pavement failure.

Jointing sand

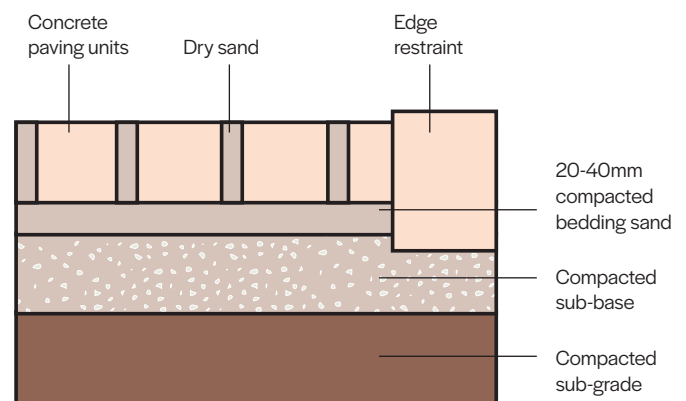
Block paving is capable of supporting substantial loads because the presence of sand in the joints generates significant friction between adjacent blocks and thereby distributes loads horizontally across the surface of the pavement from block to block. For this reason blocks should not be mortar jointed. Jointing sand is available from Tobermore Concrete and is purchased separately from paving. (It's worth pointing out that the vast majority of contractors apply the jointing sand before consolidation. This is found to give better results and does not conflict with BS 7533:3).

Laying multi-blend paving blocks

To achieve an even blend of colour it is desirable to mix product from three to four different pallets.

Recess manhole covers

Tobermore can supply manhole surrounds suitable for domestic applications only.



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.

Prior to installation

It is good practice to sort products to ensure consistency of colour, texture and dimensional tolerance.

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. Products are manufactured using naturally occurring raw materials including aggregates, granite aggregates, pigments and sand. Although every effort is taken to ensure consistency, inevitably due to the presence of these naturally extracted raw materials variations in colour, shade and texture can occur. Therefore, colours and textures illustrated are representations and should not be expected to be an exact match.

Batch codes should be checked prior to installation to reduce the risk of product shading and ensure consistency of finish. When multiple packs are being installed in one area, please ensure you check that they are all from the same production batch. This can be done by checking the batch code label that is displayed on the packs. This is of particular importance when installing single colours such as Golden, Buff, Natural, Charcoal and Red. Tobermore therefore recommends that products are thoroughly mixed on site by drawing from a minimum of four pallets.

We would always recommend that when purchasing products, especially in larger quantities, that they are all ordered and manufactured in one batch to reduce the chances of colour / shade or texture variation.

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

All colour illustrations in Tobermore's brochures 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.

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. Given time and natural weathering, the capillaries within the surface of the concrete will gradually close and any patches will tone in with the surrounding area. This will not affect long-term performance.

Efflorescence

Efflorescence is a white crystalline deposit that occurs naturally on the surface of concrete materials. 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

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.

Laying multi-blend coloured paving blocks, flags and walling products

To achieve an even blend of colour when laying multi-blend paving blocks, flags and walling products, it is desirable to mix from 3 or 4 different pallets.

Queries & Complaints

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

CORE TERMS (PAVING ONLY)

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 two – three 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)