

How do I remove stains and fix damaged pavers?

If the stain is on one or two pavers, replacing them with new pavers is the easiest way. Rinox distributes a full line of cleaners especially made for removing stains and for overall cleaning of the surface.

Are there disadvantages to sealing?

Since they are a transparent paint-like coating, sealers generally need to be reapplied every three to five years. Use sealers specifically for concrete pavers. More intense use of the pavers and extreme climates often increase the need for re-applying a coat of sealer.

Should I seal concrete pavers?

Sealing is not essential in many applications but it offers some benefits like making spills and stains easier to remove. Liquid sealers are applied after the pavers are installed and are cleaned. Paver suppliers can recommend cleaners for concrete pavers. Once applied, the sealers soak into the concrete and into the joints. Sealing pavers is a personal choice and not necessary in most applications. Sealing is not recommended within the first 90 days. The surface should be clean of stains. Sealing is not recommended while efflorescence is present. Efflorescence will dissipate over time or can be accelerated with the use of specialized cleaning agents.

What does interlocking mean?

The term interlock when referring to concrete pavers is the inability of one concrete stone moving independent of neighboring stones. The sand between the stones creates friction between the stones and strengthens the overall stability of the systems.

Should limestone screenings or stone dust be used under the concrete pavers?

No. Most screenings and stone dust have too many fine particles that slow drainage and rut under repeated loads from tires. Concrete sand is recommended by ICPU and is available in most regions

How do I prevent weed growth between the pavers? Should I install a fabric to block the weed growth?

In general weed growth at the surface of the pavement is cause from airborne seeds that germinate at the surface and therefore a fabric is not necessary. You can minimize weed

growth by maintaining full joints between the pavers with concrete sand. Another option is to install polymer locking sand that solidifies the paver joints and nearly eliminates weed growth between the pavers.

Why should I choose Rinox pavers over asphalt or poured concrete for my driveway?

Rinox concrete pavers will outlast asphalt or poured concrete driveways because of the strength of the system. Pavers are also environmentally friendly. If you have an underground repair to do, you can simply remove the pavers in the area, complete the repair and replace the pavers. This process is not so effortless with a permanent structure such as concrete or asphalt. Because pavers are flexible pavement, you will not have surface cracks that usually occur with the use of regular concrete. Also, interlocking pavers add resale value to your home. They are aesthetically pleasing and create a great curb appeal.

What is geotextile? What does it do? Is it necessary?

Sometimes called filter fabric, geotextile is made of plastic threads that allow water to pass around them, but not very small particles of soil beneath them. Geotextile separates and contains the base from the underlying soil subgrade. It allows the base to shed water, and prevents the soil around it from working its way into the base. Without geotextile, the soil will work its way into the base and weaken it. This is a slow process that happens when the soil is saturated with water or during periods of thawing. Geotextile stops this process and extends the life of the base by many years. Geotextile is recommended for use over silt and clay soils. It is not essential in sandy soils.

What is Efflorescence and how do I remove it?

Efflorescence will wash away with special detergents and will stop appearing once the source of water is removed. Efflorescence may pass quicker in an area that has frequent rain and sunny days. The process will take longer in drier climates. Typically, efflorescence will stop developing in approximately 18 to 24 months. Since many factors are involved in its formation, it is difficult to determine when exactly efflorescence will stop. Just as it appears naturally it will eventually disappear naturally. Over time, rainwater can wash away efflorescence. If you would like to have the efflorescence removed quicker your pavers can be cleaned with a commercially available cleaning formula specific for concrete pavers. Cleaning should be performed immediately after efflorescence has appeared. It may reappear as long as the chemical reaction continues and cleaning of the pavers may need to be done until the efflorescence has stopped

forming. Most cleaners contain acid and detergents, so be sure to follow directions when cleaning the efflorescence off the pavers. Careless or improper cleaning can result in injury, damage, and discoloration of the concrete pavers. Also test a small area before applying any cleaner to the entire surface. After cleaning, the pavers should be completely dry and free of efflorescence before applying sealer.

What is the base made of? What kind should be used?

The base is typically made of compacted, crushed stone that varies in size from one inch (25 mm) down to dust. Base materials used under asphalt street pavements are acceptable for use with interlocking concrete pavements. Some parts of the country use cement stabilized or concrete bases due to very weak or slow draining soils. However, most applications use a crushed stone base that's compacted.

What are the components of an interlocking concrete pavement?

The components include a base, bedding sand, Rinox concrete pavers with sand in their joints, and an edge restraint to contain the pavers at the perimeter.