



## Maintenance & Cleaning

### A. Quality Products

Tile Tech Pavers are manufactured under intense pressure and vibration using a 700 ton hydraulic press coupled to a computer controlled batching and coloring system. All pigments used in our products are inert, stable to atmospheric conditions, sunfast, limeproof and free of deleterious fillers and extenders. After the pressing procedures are complete the pavers are then ejected and stacked on specially designed steel pallets and stored in a curing chamber for 24 to 48 hours under 100% humidity. This process insures an extremely high quality and durable product that is backed by a 2 year limited warranty. Tile Tech Pavers should be properly maintained to retain there attractive appearance and prolong the life the pavers. When using cleaning and sealing products manufacturers guidelines should be followed. For specific questions and problems please contact Tile Tech Pavers.

### B. Monthly Maintenance

Dirt and debris should be swept or a 1500psi max pressure washer can also be used. High traffic areas may require weekly cleaning. Oil Spills and other harsh solvents should be cleaned immediately to prevent discoloration and permanent staining. Please see "Cleaning Stains and Spills"

### C. Semiannual Maintenance

All paver areas should be inspected for rocking, high or low edges, proper joint spacing and or alignment. For minor settling or movements shims can be used to level and adjust pavers. Chipped or cracked pavers should be replaced from owners attic stock.

Pavers installed on pedestals or open joint system installations require that pavers over drains be removed and debris in and around the drains be cleaned. Once cleaned and inspected the pavers can be reinstalled.

Once all minor repairs are completed entire paved areas should be power swept and then pressure washed. Surface penetrating polyurethane sealer is recommended to give that new look finish and prevent staining.

## **D. Cleaning Stains and Spills**

### **1. Oil Spills**

Soak up as much of the spill using sand or specially designed spill absorbers. Pressure washing (3000max) with hot water is also recommended. Degreasing solvents can then be applied per manufacturers instructions directly to the affected areas and scrubbed using nylon brush. Rinse the scrubbed area with pressure washer.

### **2. Rust Stains**

Soak affected area with water and then apply masonry cleaner such as Sureclean or Limsol per manufacturers instructions. Scrub using nylon brush and then rinse area with water thoroughly.

### **4. Tobacco Stains (Light Colored Pavers)**

Pressure washer affected area with hot water. Place a bleached soaked paper towel on top of stain and cover the area with plastic sheet secured in place using masking tape. Let stand for 24-48 hours.

### **4. Gum and Tar**

Freeze the gum or tar by applying dry ice or regular ice. Once hard quickly crape with putty knife or scraper. Do not use gasoline or other petroleum based solvents as it may dissolve the gum or tar into the pores of the pavers.

### **5. High Traffic**

Pressure wash (1500max) using hot water and commercial grade concrete cleaning products. Please follow manufacturers instructions and recommendations.

## **E. Snow Removal**

Snow can be removed using power brushes, snow blowers, or shovels. Care should be given when using metal shovels as not to scratch paver surface. Four wheeled garden tractor, not exceeding 1,500 lbs, can be also be used. Tire chains should be avoided as it can cause minor scratch on the surface of the pavers. Snowmelt products should be minimally used per manufacturers instructions. Some types of snowmelt products are not recommended to be used on concrete as it can cause surface damage. Salts are not recommended. Darker colored pavers can have a significant effect in melting snow faster.

## **F. Efflorescence**

The appearance of a white stain on some colored concrete, brick and other masonry products is called efflorescence. It is a common condition that is seen in new concrete and is created by sodium and sulfate compounds of several minerals, hydroxides, chlorides and nitrates. Water from rain, humidity, and under ground penetrates the pavers and dissolves latent salts. As the water evaporates into the atmosphere these salts are deposit on the surface and are readily seen on darker colored concrete products. Efflorescence does not have any effect on structural integrity of pavers.

Efflorescence clears up and eventually dissipates as the pavers age. The length of time can vary with weather conditions and wear. The visibility of Efflorescence can be minimized or voided by the application of surface penetrating polyurethane sealers. These sealers however trap the salt from ever reaching the surface. It is recommended that a coat of sealer be applied before they are shipped from our factory. Additionally one or two coats should be applied after the installation is completed and all debris and dirt have been removed from the surface. Efflorescence can be reduced if pavers are installed immediately upon arrival and kept from being wet while stacked on pallets.