

Graffiti Remover Technical Bulletin

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Issue Date: April 2009

Description and Use

In the last few years, there has been an alarming increase in the incidence of graffiti vandalism in public places, in particular, the repeated attacks on trains and buses. Graffiti Remover has a great number of advantages over conventional paint strippers. It is non flammable, hence there are no special transportation requirements. Graffiti Remover is low toxic hence safe to use and being completely biodegradable is environmentally friendly.

Features and Benefits

Graffiti Remover contains a special blend of solvents which add extra cleaning power to remove stubborn stains thus eliminating the need for extra alkalinity with much less risk of damage to painted or other sensitive surfaces, thus streaking effects are significantly reduced. It is easy to use – simply spray on and wipe off.

Graffiti Remover is designed for the removal of enamel, acrylic and fluorescent paints and in particular texta markings and inks from brick work, wood, metal, carpet, fabric and associated surfaces.

How to Use

Graffiti Remover is recommended for use in brickwork concrete, fibreglass, wood, laminex, stainless steel, glass aluminium, carpet, clothing and related surfaces. The following list of procedures are for cleaning graffiti from individual surfaces, applicable to a myriad of paints and markers that you may encounter.

Procedure 1

Surface: Glass, windows, aluminium, stainless steel

Remove excess thick paint carefully with a suitable scraper. Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a cloth or spray directly onto surface, then wipe off with a clean dry cloth. If possible, water rinse completely or wipe with damp clean cloth and allow to dry. Repeat application for graffiti that is difficult to remove.*

* A soft abrasive pad may be useful

Procedure 2

Surface: Concrete, brick, terrazzo ceramic, porous surface

Remove excess thick paint carefully with a suitable scraper. Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a cloth or spray directly on the surface, then using a stiff bristled brush, work well into the surface. Leave to act for at least ten minutes – longer if possible. Wipe off with clean dry cloth and allow to dry.*

Repeat application for difficult to remove graffiti. Water rinse completely or wipe with a damp clean cloth.

* For exterior work, a high pressure temperature sprayer is desirable when washing off graffiti.

NB Extra care should be exercised when removing graffiti from walls (and fences). It is recommended to wet the wall with water directly below the area to be treated. This reduces the likelihood of dissolved paint running down and discolouring the wall.

Procedure 3

Surface: Painted Surfaces

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a clean cloth or spray directly on to the surface. Allow a minimum contact time and wipe off immediately with a clean cloth. Wash off with water or wipe with a clean damp cloth and allow to dry. Repeat application until graffiti is removed

Important: Test a small or inconspicuous spot prior to large scale cleaning

Procedure 4

Surface: Fibreglass

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a clean cloth or spray directly onto the surface. Using a coarse pad, work Graffiti Remover well into the surface. Allow to act for a few minutes – longer if possible. Wipe off with a clean dry cloth and allow to dry*. Repeat steps above until graffiti is removed. Water rinse completely or wipe with a damp clean cloth.

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* To minimise shadow or ghosting effect, reapply Graffiti Remover onto clean dry cloth and wipe over affected area.

Procedure 5

Surface: Vinyl, perspex, plastic and rubber

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a clean soft cloth or spray directly onto the surface. Allow a minimum contact time and wipe off immediately with a clean cloth. Wash off with water or with a clean damp cloth and allow to dry.

Repeat steps above until graffiti is removed.

Important: Test a small or inconspicuous spot prior to large scale cleaning.

Procedure 6

Surface: Wood (unpainted)

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a clean soft cloth or spray directly onto the surface. Wipe off using a clean dry cloth.

If required, sand down adjacent area to obtain uniform appearance.

Procedure 7

Surface: Car body work

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) directly onto surface using a clean cloth or trigger spray. Wipe off immediately with a clean cloth. Wash off with water and allow to dry.

Repeat steps above until graffiti is removed *

Important: Test a small inconspicuous spot prior to large scale cleaning.

* If mark persists, repeat steps but allow 1 to 5 minutes contact time, checking periodically for lifting of graffiti. Wash off surface with water.

Procedure 8

Surface: Carpet

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a cloth or trigger spray directly onto the surface. Using a blotting or dabbing action, work inwards from the edge of the stain to prevent spreading.

Blot up using a clean dry cloth. If stain persists, repeat steps above until removed.

Rinse with water, blotting up excess moisture with absorbent cloth or wipe with a damp cloth and allow to dry.

Important: (a) Do not over wet the carpet, as this may lead to both spreading of the stain and damage to the backing.

(b) Do not rub as this will damage the pile and also spread the stain further.

Procedure 9

Surface: Clothing

Apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a cloth or trigger spray directly onto the surface. Allow to act for a few minutes, then launder in the usual manner.

Alternatively, apply Graffiti Remover (neat) with a cloth or trigger spray directly onto the surface. Using a sponge or cloth, blot up stain.

Repeat steps above until bulk of stain is removed, then launder in the usual manner (if possible, wash using hot water).

Important: Always test on an inconspicuous spot for suitability.

Graffiti Remover should not be used on fluorescent material, silk and delicate fabric.

Helpful Hints

Treat the affected area as soon as it appears. The majority of markings will be removed if they are treated immediately or within 24 hours.

To prevent damage to the underlying surface, it is advisable to always test a small to inconspicuous spot prior to large scale cleaning.

Contact time should be kept to a minimum on all painted surfaces, perspex, vinyl and solvent sensitive rubber and plastic

As a final treatment, it is advisable to thoroughly rinse the surface with water or wipe with a wet cloth to prevent damage to the underlying surface. Extra care should be exercised when removing graffiti from walls (and fences). It is recommended to wet the wall with water directly below the area to be treated. This reduces the likelihood of dissolved paint running down and discolouring the wall.

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If at all possible, remove any thick paint residues carefully with suitable scrapers (taking due care not to scratch the surface).

Aiding Graffiti Removal

Clean Cloth

The cloths used should be reasonably robust able to withstand vigorous scrubbing and wiping without becoming embrittled. Cotton cloths are strongly recommended. It is advisable to replace cloths once they become heavily soiled, this prevents the necessary spread of paint, colourants and dyestuffs.

Brushes and Scourers

Brushes and scourers are useful in lifting paint from porous and non porous surfaces. Brushes used should be semi-stiff with natural bristles. Synthetic bristles are not suitable as they are solvent-sensitive. Scourers and pads should be semi-course, with only soft pads used on non-resilient soft surfaces such as vinyl, perspex and polycarbonate. It is advisable to periodically clean all brushes and pads once they become heavily soiled, this prevents the unnecessary spread of paint, colourants and dyestuffs. The use of steel wool or excessively hard and course pads and brushes should be avoided as they are likely to damage the underlying surface.

Scrapers

Scrapers are a useful tool in the lifting of paint, adhesives, self adhered stickers etc, plastic scrapers are preferred to metal or steel, when used on smooth, non resilient soft surfaces. Sharp metal scrapers, both flat edged or profiles serve a purpose when used on glass and related surfaces. Care must always be taken to ensure they do not scratch the underlying surface.

Trigger Sprays

For ease of use, trigger sprayers are the most effective devices in the dispensing of Graffiti Remover and the subsequent removal. It is advisable to store Graffiti Remover in high density polyethylene bottles.

Pressure Washers (Steam Cleaners)

The most effective method in the removal of graffiti on a large scale exterior walls and surfaces is through the use of a high pressure temperature cleaner. The most common and effective unit appears to have a pressure rating in

the range of 500 to 2000 psi. The added features of the facility to heat the water to above 70°C with a petrol or diesel-fuelled burner is more desirable. These units can be either purchased or hired from numerous institutions listed in the Yellow Pages under "Cleaning Equipment".

Technical Data

Graffiti Remover is based on a blend of glycol ether solvents with added biodegradable surfactants for easy rinsing. The product is classified as a non-flammable (high flash point of 81°C closed cup) and is completely soluble with water and most organic solvents. It is essentially non-volatile and has a low toxicity when compared to other industrial solvents used for this application.

Pack Sizes

25L Drum	Code: 15876
1 L Bottle	Code: 13819

Dominant Colour Code



Hazard Information & Safety

Classified as hazardous according to ASCC criteria.

Poisons Schedule: S5

Dangerous Goods: Not classified

Wear chemical resistant gloves and goggles when spraying.

Do not spray over people or animals. Use in well ventilated area.



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