

EASYJoint



Expectations & Limitations of the Product

Expectations

An easy and quick to install, long-lasting paving joint filler that will withstand hot and cold temperature ranges without cracking and resists the growth of weeds up through the joint.

Limitations

It is not suitable for poorly draining or persistently wet site conditions.

It is a natural product that allows water to permeate through. The product when freshly laid will be bright in colour but because of its permeability, it may over time become dirty and change in appearance. Some natural growth of algae and mould can occur, which can generally be easily cleaned away.

The compressive strength of *EASYJoint* is such that it will adequately take the downward forces exerted by pedestrians & domestic cars, but is not designed to form a structural part of the path/driveway. The integrity of the project can only be maintained if the surface material is adequately bedded into the base, which in turn is constructed to an appropriate specification.

Instructions for Use

Prior to Use

Ground Conditions

Ensure the ground conditions are free draining, allowing water to easily soak away. If the ground is low-lying and water tends to collect and never gets away, or if there is a high water table, then *EASYJoint* should NOT BE USED.

If the paving base never dries, nor will the bottom of the joint leaving a weak result. Ensure the project has a suitable 'fall' to allow surface water to drain.

Note: If re-jointing an existing area the above advice still applies and we suggest you test the area for suitability.

Base Mix

EASYJoint is designed to be used where paving is laid securely on a solid but permeable base. To ensure permeability, the recommended bedding mix should be no stronger than a 6:1 ratio, six parts sharp sand to one of cement.

Sensitive and absorbent paving material

When working with sensitive and/or absorbent paving materials, eg. Granite, Black Limestone & Modak, there is a higher risk of marking. Likewise some materials display efflorescence after the application of water. In both cases refer to the guidance given inside the tub and the *EASYJoint* page at www.azpects.co.uk

We strongly recommend you test your paving material for sensitivity prior to using *EASYJoint*. It is the users' responsibility to ensure suitability before use.

Colour

EASYJoint is a natural product and shades can vary. The colour depicted on the

tub is representative only.

Weather Conditions

EASYJoint can be applied in virtually all weather conditions. In freezing conditions, or in falling temperatures below 3°C., refer to the website for guidance.

If heavy or prolonged rain is forecast, wait for drier conditions. Refer to the website for more information.

Joint Dimensions

For paving on a solid foundation; min. 3mm wide x 25mm deep. For paving on a sand or crushed aggregate foundation; min. 3mm wide x 30mm deep. Ensure that at least the minimum gap width is maintained throughout the full depth of the paving material.

Application

Wet the Paving Absolutely saturate the area to be jointed with water using a hose. The paving must be wet starting & remain soaked throughout the application process - in fact, **the wetter the better**. Do not shortcut this process, particularly if working with absorbent or sensitive materials such as Fossil Mint Sandstone, Modac & many Limestone types.

Work Quickly It's preferable for two operators to work together; one sweeping, the other using the hose. Using small quantities of *EASYJoint*, simultaneously spread & wash the compound across the surface using a jet of water & a broom/squeegee, allowing it to fall into the joints. **Never** allow *EASYJoint* to stand in piles or allow the paving to dry with any *EASYJoint* remaining on its surface.

Continuously Wash the Paving The hose operator should alternate between following the sweeper to aid washing the compound into the joints & moving ahead of where they are working so that the paving is always wet. This is particularly important in warm/hot weather conditions. Don't worry about using too much water - **you can't use too much!**

Top up the Joints Allow the excess water to drain away. Top up any sagging joints with more *EASYJoint* & repeat the washing process as described previously.

Final Wash & Clean Apply a final **gentle spray** of water across the surface to both wash off any *EASYJoint* residue & to aid the final compaction process. This will also provide a relatively smooth & pleasing finish to the joint. Work conscientiously not to leave any grains of sand on the surface. When the water has drained away, a "flicking" motion with a clean soft hand brush (not the same one used to apply the compound) will aid the removal of any loose grains.

Examples of issues arising from inappropriate or incorrect installation

Excessive discolouration of joints

Fast discolouration of the joint, even to a black colour, is likely to be the result of high water retention in the joint caused through poor drainage below the paving surface. Either the site is not naturally free draining or the base is too strong and is impermeable.

Dark markings or spots on the paving

The ingredients in EASYJoint can absorb into the surface of the paving material if it has not been protected by the use of water, and may cause dark patches or spots to appear.

Paving that has been well saturated with water before, during and after the EASYJoint installation process will not suffer with this issue.

Particularly sensitive paving (such as Modak and other polished/honed products) will benefit from being pre-sealed with an appropriate paving sealer.

This problem occurs more regularly in hot weather conditions when the operator should be aware of the paving drying out quickly.

Crumbling / failing Joints

The joints have cracked or are crumbling away; there may be an excessive amount of sand appearing over the paving surface. There are two possible causes:

1. The joints are either too shallow or too narrow – see minimum joint size requirements.
2. The joints are retaining water for long periods either because the site is not naturally free draining or the base is too strong and is impermeable.

Sections of the filler easily lift out of the joint

This problem only occurs where the joints are “v” shaped, typically on cast concrete paving or incorrectly laid (upside down) hand chipped natural stone. Care should have been taken to “key in” the filler – refer to website www.azpects.co.uk

Storage & Display

Keep out of direct sunlight. Can be stored in cold conditions but protect from frost.

Health & Safety

No significant hazard but keep out of reach of children.

Do not get in eyes. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/ face protection.

May cause sensitisation by skin contact. Wash hands and exposed skin thoroughly after handling.

Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.