

Permeable Paving Operation & Maintenance Requirements

Regular inspection and maintenance is important for the effective operation of pervious pavements. The facility should be inspected regularly, preferably during and after heavy rainfall to check effective operation and to identify any areas of ponding.

Pervious surfaces need to be regularly cleaned of silt and other sediments to preserve their infiltration capability. Manufacturers' recommendations should always be followed.

A brush cleaner, which can be a lorry-mounted device or a smaller precinct sweeper, should be used and the sweeping regime should be as follows:

1. End of winter (April) – to collect winter debris.
2. Mid-summer (July/August) – to collect dust, flower and grass-type deposits.
3. After autumn leaf fall (November).

Care should be taken in using vacuuming equipment to avoid removal of jointing material. Any lost material should be replaced.

If reconstruction is necessary, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Lift surface layer and laying course.
2. Remove any geo-textile filter layer.
3. Inspect sub-base and remove, and replace if required.
4. Renew any geo-textile layers.
5. Renew laying course, jointing material and concrete block paving.

The reconstruction of failed areas of concrete block pavement should be less costly and disruptive than the rehabilitation of continuous concrete or asphalt porous surfaces due to the reduced area that is likely to be affected. Materials removed from the voids or the layers below the surface may contain heavy metals and hydrocarbons and may need to be disposed of as controlled waste. Sediment testing should be carried out before disposal to confirm its classification and appropriate disposal methods.

Pervious pavement operation and maintenance requirements

Maintenance schedule	Required action	Frequency
Regular maintenance	Brushing.	Three times/year at end of winter, mid-summer, after autumn leaf fall, or as required based on site-specific observations of clogging or manufacturers' recommendations.
Occasional maintenance	Stabilize and mow contributing and adjacent areas.	As required.
	Removal of weed.	As required.
Remedial actions	Remediate any landscaping which, through vegetation maintenance or soil slip, has been raised to within 50 mm of the level of the paving.	As required.
	Remedial work to any depressions, rutting and cracked or broken blocks considered detrimental to the	As required.

Maintenance schedule	Required action	Frequency
	structural performance or a hazard to users.	
	Rehabilitation of surface and upper sub-structure.	As required (if infiltration performance is reduced as a result of significant clogging).
Monitoring	Initial inspection.	Monthly for three months after installation. Top-up jointing material as required.
	Inspect for evidence of poor operation and/or weed growth. If required take remedial action.	3-monthly, 48 h after large storms.
	Inspect silt accumulation rates and establish appropriate brushing frequencies.	Annually.
	Monitor inspection chambers.	Annually.

Maintenance activities should be detailed in the Health and Safety Plan and a risk assessment should be undertaken.