

Azpects 

EASYJoint

How to use

INSTRUCTIONS & GUIDANCE FOR PEDESTRIAN PAVING AREAS



Before using **EASYJoint** read **all** of these instructions, visit www.azpects.co.uk and watch the video

Pre-Installation Checks

EASYJoint is designed for use on a free draining site. Before using check the site conditions are suitable for the use of EASYJoint, which is a porous jointing solution (see below).

Weather Conditions. When working on a free draining, permeable project, EASYJoint can be applied in virtually all weather conditions. However, in freezing conditions, or in falling temperatures below 3°C, refer to the website for guidance. If heavy or prolonged rain is forecast, ideally wait for drier conditions as heavy rain could disturb sand particles that make up EASYJoint before it cures hard, giving an uneven texture. Prolonged rain will also extend the curing process. See www.azpects.co.uk for more information.

Suitable Paving types. EASYJoint can be used with all paving types, subject to the minimum 3mm joint width (see section on Joint Dimensions). It is therefore **NOT** suitable for the UK's traditional block paving where the joint width is typically 1-1.5mm.

Some paving types need additional attention before and during the use of EASYJoint. In particular, please be aware of the information supplied elsewhere in this guide about sensitive natural stone types and paving with chamfered edges ('V' shaped joints).



EASYJoint Colours. There are various colours to choose from. Shades can vary so always select tubs with the same batch number to complete a project. The colours depicted on the tub and illustrated on the website or other literature are representative only. To ensure the colour meets your requirement, test a small area before spreading out a whole tub.

Repointing old Paving. Clean out the old jointing product completely to create the correct joint size (see information under the 'Joints' section). Do not use EASYJoint if the correct and fully clean joint size cannot be obtained. Be aware of the information supplied about site conditions and the porosity of the base and ground conditions. If there is uncertainty about either of these factors, **do not use** EASYJoint. In such instances, **EASYJoint PRO** may be a viable alternative - visit website for more information.

Joint dimensions.

For paving on a solid foundation: min. 3mm wide x 20mm deep.

For paving on a sand or crushed aggregate foundation: min. 3mm wide x 25mm deep.

When working with thin paving material it is difficult to achieve the correct depth. In such cases, to achieve the required depth, create a channel in the base material by running the tip of a trowel around the exposed edges of each paver.

Ensure that at least the minimum gap width is maintained throughout the full depth of the paving.



Quick Installation Guide

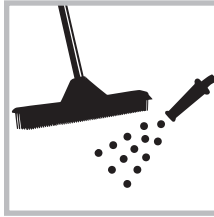
Users are **strongly advised** to watch the video demonstration available on the website prior to working with EASYJoint. The EASYJoint section of the comprehensive website provides a wealth of useful information with detailed instructions as well as useful tips, FAQ's and watch-points.

Before starting the job, please also read the **General Information & Precautions** elsewhere in this leaflet.



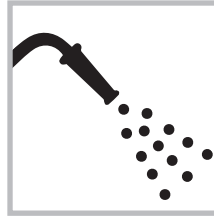
1 WEATHER

EASYJoint can be applied in virtually all weather conditions. However, read the "Weather Conditions" note on page 1.



2 TOOLS

Squeegee or stiff broom
Hose/water supply



3 PRE-SOAK THE AREA

The wetter the better



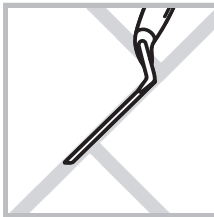
4 POUR

Open the tub and empty contents on to the paving and add water to form a slurry



5 SWEEP & RINSE

Using the broom/squeegee sweep the **EASYJoint** across the paving using a spray of water to assist in filling the joints



6 FINISH

It is strongly advised to finish the joint with a pointing tool (strike) to get a smoother finish

Concrete Paving with a Chamfered Edge

Some concrete paving is made in moulds and has chamfered edges. In such cases, when two paving slabs are laid side by side a “V” shaped gap is formed, wider at the top than at the bottom. This gap shape can be the most challenging to work with and we recommend you carefully follow the instructions below.

Maintain the Width of Joint Throughout. Maintain at least a 3mm gap width throughout the depth of the paving material. Never have this type of paving butted together. See photograph below.

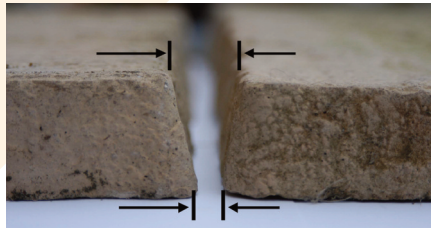
Lock in the Joint. An irregular “V” shaped joint means that any type of filler, EASYJoint included, will have difficulty in staying in place.

To form a stable joint when laying the paving, draw the tip of your trowel along the bottom edge of each slab so that a small gap forms along and under the paving edge. EASYJoint will flow into the gap and when set will be locked into place. See diagram below.

To further aid this, “point” or “strike” the joint; do not leave it textured. This ensures the top of the filler is below the top rounded edge of the paving and helps it adhere to the base and sides of the paving material.

Do not overfill the Joint. As with all types of paving, never overfill the joint. This is particularly important if the paving has a “rounded” top edge. The filler should be kept below the start of the “rounding”. See diagram below.

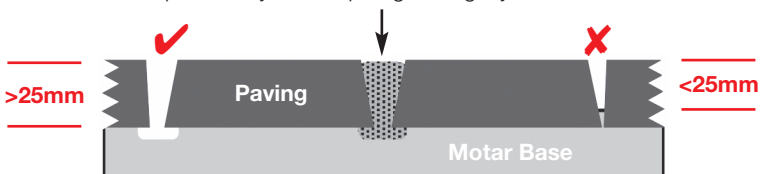
Joint Width
Top minimum 3mm



Bottom minimum 3mm

Lock in the joint

Fill the EASYJoint to just below the surface of the paving, particularly if the top edge is slightly rounded



Create a small gap under the edge of each slab in order to “lock” the EASYJoint under the paver

General Information & Precautions

If you are reading this AFTER you have used EASYJoint, it is too late!

Site Conditions. The site conditions must be appropriate for use. Refer to page 1.

Use Plenty of Water. It cannot be overly stressed to use plenty of water before, during and after the application of EASYJoint.

Sensitive Paving Materials. Some types of natural stone, for example, Granite, Black Limestone and Sandstone, can be very sensitive and susceptible to marking from the natural environment, from mortar used for the base or joints and from specialist joint fillers. If unsure, refer to the stone supplier for advice on the sensitivity of the particular stone, for even using liberal amounts of water as demanded elsewhere in these instructions may not be enough to prevent marking. To greatly diminish the possibility of marking these types of stone it is strongly recommended to seal the paving with a breathable sealant, preferably before installation but certainly prior to jointing. A breathable sealer will provide protection both during the jointing process and afterwards. It will also allow any efflorescence (white deposits caused by natural salts) present in the base and substrate to pass through the paving material and over time, dissipate into the atmosphere. This is a problem that is particularly prevalent in Black Limestone and Granite and will regularly appear after installation. **It is not caused by the use of EASYJoint.** More information on these issues can be found on the website. Water-based breathable sealants can be found in the EASYSeal Range on the website; they are ideal for this purpose.

EASYJoint is Porous. This is a positive environmental attribute but over time there may be changes in the appearance of the joint. Dirty surface water passing through the joint can result in discolouration. This is entirely natural; it is not a fault and it will not impair the integrity of the product. The porous nature of the joint also allows algae and fungal growth to develop. Both of these issues can be remedied with the cautious use of a light pressure washer once a year, using a “fan” type nozzle no closer than 150mm (6 inches) from the surface. This will safely clean the joints of dirt and spore growth. More persistent algae/fungal growth can be tackled with an appropriate product from the EASYCare range. Do not use a pressure washer on the paving for at least 4 weeks after EASYJoint’s application.

Strength. The compressive strength of EASYJoint is such that it will adequately take the downward forces exerted by pedestrians and domestic cars, but is not designed to form a structural part of the path/driveway.

Sealing. EASYJoint can be sealed but it is recommended not to apply any type of sealer over the joint for at least a month after it has set hard. Depending on the type of sealant used, EASYJoint may or may not remain porous.

Applying EASYJoint Without Water. Installers are strongly advised to apply EASYJoint using the standard method as described in these instructions wherever possible. However, there are circumstances where this method may not be suitable, such as when using the compound in freezing conditions, or in temperatures of 3°C and falling. Refer to the website for more guidance.

Footwear Caution. The soles of footwear may pick up some EASYJoint during application. Clean them before walking across dried (or drying) paving to avoid leaving “footmarks”. For similar reasons, do not use the same broom that was used to apply the EASYJoint to clear the surface afterwards; it will be contaminated and may leave marks.

General Information & Precautions (Continued)

Working with Porcelain Paving. The same rules apply when working with porcelain paving tiles as with working with stone or concrete. The base on which the porcelain is laid **must be porous**. If the base is non-porous then **EASYJoint Pro** or **EASYGrout** should be used. See website for more information.

Less water is needed than when working with stone/concrete, as the EASYJoint will not cause porcelain/ceramic to mark in the same way. However, users will find that a small amount of water to form it into a slurry, will make it easier for the operator to fill the joints properly.

Setting Times. In dry conditions and warm to moderate temperatures and humidity, EASYJoint should be firm enough to walk on within 24 hours and will cure very hard within a few days. Cold and wet conditions increases the setting time considerably. Freezing weather will cause the process to virtually cease and it can take many days for the joints to set hard. However EASYJoint will eventually set and the joint's integrity will not have impaired in any way.

Whilst EASYJoint remains wet, either from the application procedure or through rainfall, the curing process will be suspended. Prolonged rainfall, or several intermittent showers will considerably extend the setting times. Again, this will not affect the final integrity of the product provided the water can drain away and so allow even curing throughout the joints (as previously explained).

Clean-up. Work cleanly, clearing both the sand grains and the binding oil from the surface as you go. Keep washing until the "rainbow effect" oily water is no longer evident.

Once EASYJoint has set hard in the joints, sweep the paving with a stiff broom, diagonally to the joints, to remove any final traces of compound, especially along the edges of "struck" joints. Do not use the same broom that was used in the application process. Unused but opened EASYJoint can be saved for later use by pouring it back into the tub (not in the bag) and covering it with at least 50mm of water. The product should remain usable for many months.

Domestic Vehicular Driveways. EASYJoint can be used on domestic driveways (vehicle weight of less than 3 tonnes). However, certain provisions when using must be observed.

1. Most vehicular drives are constructed with a strong foundation and bedding mix. The consequence is that it will be less, or completely impermeable. In such cases, EASYJoint should **not be used**. Consider using **EASYJoint PRO** instead.
2. EASYJoint does not form a structural part of the driveway; it only serves as a joint filler. It has good compressive strength and can easily withstand the downward pressures exerted by a domestic car provided the surface material is well bedded into the base material.
3. 50% of the depth of the surface material must be bedded into the base. If the surface material is not properly bedded into the base then the joint filler will not withstand the twisting (or torque) caused when a vehicle changes direction (i.e. turning).

Legal Disclaimers

1. User's Responsibility. The company cannot be aware of all the applications and materials the product may be used with. It is the user's responsibility to determine suitability for use. If used in accordance with the instructions, the product should set hard and not affect the aesthetic properties of the material on which it is used, but no guarantee of this is given or implied. Neither the manufacturer nor supplier accepts any liability for; (a) the joint failing as a result of inherent site conditions, (b) any changes in the appearance of the paving resulting from the use of EASYJoint or (c) any visual or physical changes to the joint, whether naturally occurring or from the application of any other substance, i.e. cleaning products or protection coats. If in any doubt test a sample before use. Refer to the website for more precautionary advice.

2. Colour. EASYJoint is a natural product and shades can vary. The colour depicted on the tub is representative only. Always buy the EASYJoint from the same supplier and pallet; this should ensure no variation of shades between the tubs. The colour will also change with natural weathering - becoming dirty.

3. Marking on Paving. If incorrectly used with insufficient water to create a barrier between the paving and the EASYJoint, or with particularly sensitive stone if it has not been protected with an appropriate sealer before jointing, marking and discolouration may appear - in the form of blotches or freckle-like spots. This is entirely preventable by using the correct installation methods as described in these instructions and elsewhere in Azpects literature and on the website. However, should this unfortunate circumstance arise, the user may take comfort in the fact that over time (an unknown quantity because of the wide variance in the paving material, level of marking, ongoing weather conditions etc.), such marking should fade and disappear.

4. Final Warning about the Base and Site Conditions. EASYJoint must be used on a porous base. If a strong and consequently impermeable base (such as concrete) and/or a strongly mixed bedding (5 parts or less sand to 1 part cement), then over time the EASYJoint is likely to fail. No responsibility is taken by the manufacturer or supplier for such an occurrence.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Animals and Aquatic Life

- All animals should be kept away from the site during and immediately after application (whilst the EASYJoint is still soft and wet residue is on the surface).
- **When applying EASYJoint, do not allow contaminated water to run into fish or wildlife ponds as it MAY cause long lasting harmful effects to aquatic life.**
- Keep out of reach of children.
- Avoid release to the environment.
- Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
- Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing.

IF IN EYES: Rinse immediately with plenty of water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

If eye irritation persists get medical advice/attention.

IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water.

If skin irritation occurs get medical advice/attention



WARNING

EASYSeal

Protect your investment



Block & concrete sealer with sand binder

Block paving & concrete sealer



Slate & Limestone protector & enhancer



Stone & paving protector



Natural stone colour enhancer & protector

Superior sealer - tough & long lasting protection



Water Seal+



Enhanced deck grip



Back to Black Limestone

Perfect for natural stone & concrete



EASYCare Look after your investment



**For paths,
patios, decking,
roofing & walls**



**Fast & effortless
algae removal**

**Neutralises salt
stains from new
brickwork & paving**



**Effective
porcelain tile &
paving cleaner**



**Superior
removal of
dirt & grime**



**Remove oil &
grease stains**

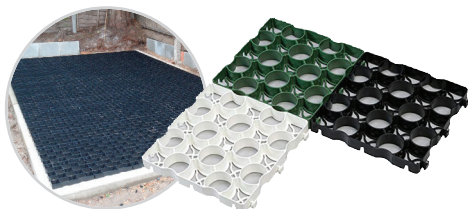


**Heavy duty jointing
compound for patios,
paths & driveways**

EASYscape

EASYGrid

**Shed base, car space, driveway,
equine turnout, roof garden & more!**



EASYClickBase
**Create strong driveways,
paths & patios with less
preparation, excavation
& aggregate**