



**Graffiti Removal Systems Pty Ltd** ABN: 48 079 733 163  
Official Provider Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games  
*Keeping Australia Clean & Green*



## Graffiti Removal Methods

### Removal from Bare Masonry

Our system of graffiti removal is via gentle agitation with a nylon bristle brush and selection of the appropriate chemical to remove the defacing medium.

The chemical is left to dwell for approximately 5 minutes and, during this time it reactivates the oils in the defacing medium therefore there is no harsh scrubbing or blasting.

The absence of aggressive removal methods avoids any damage to the mortar or substrate.

### Removal from Sealed or Painted Surfaces

Dependant on the size of the attack, it is either via gentle chemical agitation with a brush and wipe off the graffiti.

If the painted surface is very large, the graffiti is first sealed in (particularly text) and the most cost-effective method is to colour-match and paint out the surface.

### Removal from Sandstone

The most critical process in removing graffiti from Sandstone is to correctly identify what defacing medium has been used and applying the correct chemical in order to successfully remove any graffiti from this challenging surface.

Due to the very porous nature of Sandstone, Limestone, Bluestone, Tessellated Slate, Travertine Marble and Granite etc, the most successful removal on these surfaces is through a series of procedures.

Sandstone in particular can absorb spraycan paint to a depth of 6 inches. Our process is based on drawing the defacing medium to the surface rather than blasting (which is sadly still quite common).

We have worked on numerous Heritage Buildings in Melbourne and each removal is very different!

Textas are, without doubt, the most challenging as many 'graffers' concoct their own ink mixtures. The most alarming aspect of graffiti removal from stone is when we have been called to remove the shadowing & ghosting left behind from unsuccessful attempts.

We have developed a process in our removal methods that will eliminate shadowing & ghosting!

### Removal from Concrete

Identifying the medium used in the graffiti attack is the key to success from this substrate. Concrete is either sealed (tilt slab panels, factory panels etc) again, gentle agitation with a brush or broomed on with the correct chemical, left to dwell and then rinsed off with light pressure. If it is unsealed concrete (footpaths) the chemical selection is the same, however due to the porous nature, the removal method is more delicate

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All Correspondence

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## Graffiti Removal Methods

### Removal from Timber

The most common graffiti medium on Timber is spraycan paint! Dependant on the age of the fence, a decision of removal is either a paint-out or chemical.

If removal is the preferred option, graffiti is removed from the top of the fence to the base in a dedicated section so as not to resemble a "patch-work quilt".

In cases of large amounts of graffiti over several fences, a paint-out is a better solution being more cost-effective.

After colour-matching the paint, application is via HVLP Sprayer, which is high volume low pressure, our preference is based on the fact that there is virtually no over-spray therefore minimising any damage to a residents property (eg washing on the line).

Depending on the nature of the graffiti, usually a light 'fog-misting' will cover the graffiti and will blend better with the fence.

We are currently working with Solver Paints (division of Wattyl) to develop paints that blend with new Permapine, 6 month old Pine and weathered Grey Timber.

### Removal from Plastic

The most common graffiti used on plastic is Texta. Dependant on the type of plastic, it is usually easily removed with our Texta & Feltpen Graffiti Remover, again with gentle agitation with a brush and rinsed off.

Most of our removals on plastic infrastructure have been on playground equipment and the speed and effectiveness of this removal method minimises any distraction to people who enjoy these facilities.

### Removal of Posters

We have found that the most effective method of poster removal is to saturate the poster with hot water and gently scrape and peel them from the substrate. Most posters are adhered with a mixture of flour, water and egg. Lately die-hard vandals in Melbourne have been adding Araldite to the Mixture.

There are no short-cuts with poster removal and even though this method may seem laborious, it is the most effective.

**All the chemicals used by Graffiti Removal Systems contain no carcinogenic properties or methylene hydrochloride traces.**

**All chemicals when rinsed with water become inert, therefore avoiding any contamination to our environment.**

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