

How do I remove graffiti shadows left from using another product?

(Refer to the techniques described in 'Tips and Tricks' numbers 5,6 and 7).

If necessary, leaving 'Bare Brick', Stone & Masonry Graffiti Remover (BBSM) or Feltpen Fadeout (FPFO) on overnight (especially if there are any magic marker stains) can be extremely helpful.

On the following day, lightly coat again before rinsing.

How do I remove residual graffiti shadow from limestone, granite and marble?

Apply Feltpen Fadeout several times daily, until it appears that no more fading will occur. Often this technique will ultimately fix the problem.

If not, then apply several flood coats of BBSM, with a coat of Transgel on top, overnight. Wrap the area with plastic sheeting, which will help it stay wetter for longer.

Only do this if it is safe from the general public. Employ a guard if you have to.

In the morning, use very hot water with a pressure washer. You may have to use the gun quite close to the surface so avoid prolonged time in gunning in one spot only. Keep the tip moving very fast around, over, below and above the graffiti shadow.

Repeat if needed.

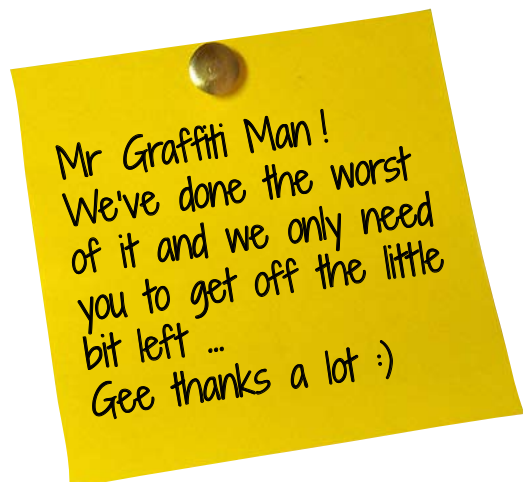
Hint: Other people's stuff ups' can take a lot of time to fix. Don't underquote or underestimate the job. Set an hourly rate.



Residual ink tag on limestone before applying FPFO



After several application of FPFO. All the ink stain has been removed but a little 'bruising' from blasting too close the first time around still shows



TIPS AND TRICKS FOR THE PRO'S

The top 10 of our most commonly used techniques and shortcuts designed for experienced users.



The techniques described in this chapter are based upon our own experience in using the World's Best Graffiti Removal System everyday in the field. They are commonly used by us and will help give you far greater SPEED and ACCURACY (ie: no leaving shadows, nor doing jobs twice, nor causing damage to things) when engaged in professional graffiti removal.



Anyone deciding to make use of these tips must evaluate their own particular situation with regards to the suitability of the substrate/surface being cleaned, and take into account all relevant safety precautions prior to proceeding.

- 1 Sensitive Surface Graffiti Remover may not appear to work immediately on some spraycan paints, suggesting a threatened failure. Sometimes several minutes are required before the paint "crinkles", so be patient. We find the use of a white soft Scotch-Brite scourer agitated on the graffiti as the product is applied breaks through the glossy hard paint more easily. Only use light agitation, as the purpose is to just break the film of the paint rather than scour the paint off, risking a "scratched" finish on the surface.



A soft white scourer can be helpful to agitate older, dried out graffiti. In the pictures above, removal was FIRST attempted using another graffiti remover which had dried out the spraycan. SSGR was then applied, resulting in the clean area in the right hand side photo.

- 2 A small amount of 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover can be added to Sensitive Surface Graffiti Remover to increase the effectiveness and speed of the removal of some stubborn spraycan paints on painted surfaces. This can be especially helpful in cold weather if SSGR appears to be a little slow. Work quickly, and on small areas at a time, to avoid any damage to the underlying surface. The use of a Scotch-Brite scourer is definitely of help in this instance to increase the removal speed.



3 Some larger wall areas of 'sound' acrylic paint, which can possibly be damaged by any graffiti removers, can sometimes have quite large tags, or areas, removed without damage. Of course the best alternative is to color match and repaint, but in an emergency the following method can achieve surprisingly good results:

i. Start up your pressure cleaner, making sure that it is running low pressure on warm to cold temperature, and thoroughly saturate the graffiti area.

ii. Using a soft nylon broom and a rectangular bucket containing 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Remover, quickly apply and agitate about 10 square feet of the graffiti until approximately half disappears (the graffiti is dissolving and running).

iii. Using low pressure, quickly rinse this treated area, and thoroughly wet down ahead to repeat the same on the next section. Approximately 95% of the spraycan graffiti should be gone. If you find that it is affecting the underlying paint, you will have to shorten your initial application time. The reason you stop at approximately half dissolved is because the rinsing tends to remove another 50% more than you have.

iv. Carefully spot clean any uncleaned areas using SSGR. If the dissolved graffiti has stained the wall, a dilute application of Feltpen Fadeout will return it to its former glory. With this technique never ever use hot water! (It will blister the underlying paint).



After applying BBSM, graffiti will start to run down the wall



Rinse clean with a cold pressure washer



On a damp wall, brush on BBSM then rinse away



Touch up any remaining areas of undissolved graffiti using SSGR

- 4** Feltpen Fadeout can be applied first to thick feltpen markers without agitating with the brush. Immediately after this, apply Sensitive Surface Graffiti Remover in the normal manner. The Feltpen Fadeout will absorb the dissolved staining inks thus avoiding ghosting.



- 5** Any spraycan graffiti that changes color when 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover is applied, will also be affected by Feltpen Fadeout. Many shadows will disappear if Feltpen Fadeout is applied during and after 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover application.

In fact, If the spraycan you are trying to remove is RED, or any color with red in it (ie: orange, pink, brown, purple etc), then a generous application of FPFO will remove any remaining pigment. The fading process in these circumstances normally takes only a few minutes to less than half an hour, but longer dwell times may be necessary. The good news is, if you begin to see the stain disappear (even 5%) you will fade the rest, so be patient and reapply FPFO if needed.

Remember to look out for subtle changes in colors such as greens turning greyish yellow and reds turning crimson. The effect of this technique can be magic, leaving onlookers totally gobsmacked.



Red spraycan dissolving with BBSM



One application of FPFO



Final rinse



Red spraycan bubble writing



Brushing on 3 coats of BBSM



FPFO brushed on - does the trick!

6 Sometimes on masonry surfaces (in particular cement, brick or cinderblock walls) spraycan graffiti will stop responding to any normal removers, resulting in a slight shadow. For instance, a stubborn blue or black shadow on concrete, masonry or cinderblock that is showing resistance to BBSM, even after flood coating and leaving for longer periods. That is, it appears that BBSM has virtually stopped working and you have remaining a 5 -10% shadow to deal with.

Try applying a solution of exactly 1 part muriatic acid (hydrochloric aka HCL) to 8 parts or less of water. Brush on this solution and agitate with the brush. You will see it fizz up a bit, as the solution neutralizes. Then rinse shortly after with your pressure washer. This method can be very quick and satisfying, particularly on stubborn blue or black shadows like the ones in the photos below.



This particular blue spraycan on cinder block is a prime candidate for muriatic solution.



Slight shadow remains



After applying muriatic solution



Good as new!

When using this technique it is a good idea to test out your muriatic solution first in an inconspicuous area. Stronger solutions may possibly have the effect of slightly darkening an area. If this should happen, a complete section may have to be cleaned (with the solution). Remember, your gun technique must be very even and gentle when rinsing the muriatic solution to avoid 'tiger striping' the area.

Typically, shadows are the result of not leaving 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover on long enough to do its work. As a rule of thumb, if any given application of BBSM appears to have faded the graffiti MORE than the last, then it just needs a longer dwell time. Always remember the motto;

THE LONGER, THE WETTER, THE BETTER.



HOT TIP: In hot weather environments, try thoroughly wetting the wall down first, prior to applying BBSM. Working on a DAMP wall (not dripping wet) will visibly help speed up the removal process, and slow a hot thirsty wall from slurping up and drying out the remover before it has had a chance to penetrate and encapsulate the graffiti from behind.

7 Tilt-up or precast concrete panels hit with spraycan graffiti can sometimes be a nightmare, mainly because they want to slurp up and dry out the graffiti remover before it has penetrated and done its work. For this very reason, we use a coarse type Scotch-Brite scourer to push in and agitate the 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover into the graffiti as we apply it. The results of this exercise are well worth this extra effort.



Tilt-up concrete

8 Boot polish markers (which are really just a plastic bottle with a foam applicator and are easily recognized by thin drips running down vertically from the 'tag') are best removed with Feltpen Fadeout. Wet the tag first with water, leave for a minute or two, then apply Feltpen Fadeout. Either wipe or pressure wash off depending on the surface type.



Boot polish

9 Some markers such as Posca Pens, which are an easily identified as flat chalky-style water-based marking pens (usually in light blues, greens, watermelon pinks and other pastel colors) respond better in the first instance to neat Feltpen Fadeout, than they do to Sensitive Surface Graffiti Remover.



Posca pen and marker

This can also be true of some leather dyes and boot polish, which appear as broad strokes with lots of drips. These sorts of markers on concrete can show some resistance to 'Bare Brick', Stone and Masonry Graffiti Remover, so it is well worth testing Feltpen Fadeout first before flooding with BBSM.



Appears to be leather dye or boot polish

10 Some feltpen markers on concrete, bricks etc. which have not been affected by Sensitive Surface Graffiti Remover will not appear to fade out after application of Feltpen Fadeout. These are best removed with a hot water pressure cleaner.



Feltpen stains on pre-cast colored concrete easily fade away with an application of Feltpen Fadeout. Dwell time: 5-10mins. Always dissolve as much as possible, first, with BBSM or SSGR.