



# Sealing Your Pavers

## Protect Your Investment

*One of the most common questions that home owners ask when they are having pavers installed on their pool deck, patios, or driveways is whether or not they should have them sealed.*

Just like the multitude of colors and paver styles, the opinions on paver sealing are widespread. However, at the end of the day, the majority of manufacturers will recommend having your pavers sealed. Our Florida climate features extreme variations in heat, moisture, and other elements and in order to keep your pavers protected and looking great for years to come, sealing them can provide many advantages.



- ① Weather.** Think of the analogy of applying sunscreen when going outdoors. It's the same with pavers. Pavers that are sealed will experience far less color fading over time versus pavers that are unsealed. Many sealers feature additives that deter the damaging UV rays that are common in our sub-tropical climate
- ② Stain Resistance.** Sealing your pavers is a great way to help protect against stains caused by pets, foot traffic and the spilling of beverages and food items on your pool deck or patio. Additionally, sealing on a driveway will help reduce staining caused by oil and vehicular tire marks.
- ③ Mold, Mildew and Milky Appearance (The Big 3).** A paver that has been sealed is more likely to resist mold, mildew, and that milky looking substance known as efflorescence. Pavers have thousands of small capillaries in them and a sealer helps fill these voids, making it difficult for The Big 3 to take hold.

There are many different brands on the market, but there are two primary types of sealer. The first is water based which can be applied when the paver is wet and it will maintain the appearance of the paver as it was at the time of manufacture. The second type of sealer is a solvent based product. This should be applied under prolonged dry conditions and it will also give the paver a glossy appearance as if they were wet. There are advantages and disadvantages of both including cost, longevity, and slip resistance.

Technological advancements in the sealer industry continue to hit the market every year. One of the more impressive developments is the intro-

duction of a line of pavers and coping that are pre-sealed. These next generation products are **DuraThin Pavers™**. They are sealed during the manufacturing process and special additives and protectors are incorporated at the time of production. Traditional sealers are applied topically and do not encase the entire paver, leaving potential areas of exposure. Pre-sealed pavers also feature a "Green" element to them as there is no chemical application on the job site.

For more information on the latest in paver sealing or to learn more about pre-sealed pavers and coping, call C&D Thin Pavers and Coping at 1-866-9-PAVERS or visit [Thinpavers.com](http://Thinpavers.com). □