# How to remove graffiti

Leaning to remove graffiti is easy with the right tools and a little knowledge. There is no single solution or technique that will remove every type of graffiti from every surface. This section is a brief guide to introduce So Safe<sup>TM</sup> users to the world of graffiti removal. This page will cover the basic's on how to use graffiti remover using contractor's methods and processes to remove graffiti from the most common substrates. For specific advice we recommend you contact our technical help line at (+1) 714.786.8000.

Different variables in the environment affect the ease in which graffiti can be removed. Generally newer graffiti is easier to remove from surfaces. If graffiti is particularly difficult to remove, consider hiring a professional to use our Shadow Chaser products.

#### **Types of Graffiti**

There are several factors that influence the right approach to removing graffiti:

- 1. What type of substrate has the graffiti been applied to?
- 2. What type of graffiti has been applied?

#### **How to remove graffiti – Four variable factors**

- Time
- Temperature
- Agitation (Brush / Pressure Washing)
- Chemical Strength

**Time** – The longer the contact time the deeper the graffiti remover will penetrate. The more sensitive the surface the shorter the time the graffiti product is on the surface.

**Temperature** – Warmer weather speeds up the rate in which the graffiti removal product works.

**Agitation** – When graffiti removal products are applied by means of hard bristled brushes or scourers, it assists in breaking the bond between the graffiti and the surface. NOTE: be careful on sensitive surfaces, otherwise the underlying surface maybe damaged.

**Chemical** – Use the right chemical for the task at hand, review the product selection guide.

SAFETY NOTICE: When removing graffiti always use protective clothing including suitable enclosed shoes, gloves & goggles. Always read and follow the warnings on the bottle of the graffiti removal product.

FIRST AID: Follow directions on the graffiti removal product label being used or the relevant MSDS.

TEST NOTICE: Always test graffiti removal products in an inconspicuous area for color changes.

**NOTE:** There is no silver bullet for graffiti removal. It is important that the person removing graffiti understands which graffiti remover and tools to use on the specific surface. SoSafe product support team members are located in many countries, should you have a specific type of graffiti to remove these technicians are there to help!

### SoSafe Yellow Graffiti Remover for Painted surfaces

- 1. Read safety precautions!
- 2. Surface must be clean and <u>DRY</u> (yellow label does not work on wet surfaces).
- 3. Test an in conspicuous part of surface to test for product reaction.
- 4. Wipe over graffiti with soft sponge or white rag.
- 5. Apply product undiluted to graffiti.
- 6. Allow at least 1 minute for product to penetrate graffiti.
- 7. Scrub graffiti with soft sponge or white rag.
- 8. Repeat steps 5 to 7 (as required).
- 9. Rinse / wipe all treated areas with water to remove graffiti remover (this will deactivate the product).
- 10. (RECOMMENDED) Apply SoSafe Safety Shield to protect against future graffiti.

## SoSafe Green Graffiti Remover – Remover of Graffiti, Poster and Adhesives

- 1. Read safety precautions!
- 2. Test an in conspicuous part of surface to test for product reaction.
- 3. Wipe over graffiti with scouring pad/ white rag.
- 4. Apply product undiluted to graffiti.
- 5. Allow at least 15 seconds for product to penetrate graffiti.
- 6. Scrub graffiti lightly with scouring pad or white rag.
- 7. Repeat steps 5 to 7 (as required).
- 8. Rinse / wipe all treated areas with water to remove graffiti remover.

## SoSafe Blue Graffiti Remover for Concrete surfaces

- 1. Read safety precautions!
- 2. Surface must be clean and <u>DRY</u> (blue label does not work on wet surfaces).
- 3. Test an in conspicuous part of surface to test for product reaction.
- 4. Wipe over graffiti with nylon/wire brush.
- 5. Apply product undiluted to graffiti.
- 6. Allow at least 3 minutes for product to penetrate graffiti.

- 7. Scrub graffiti with nylon/wire brush.
- 8. Repeat steps 5 to 7 (as required).
- 9. Rinse / wipe all treated areas with water to remove graffiti remover (this will deactivate the product).
- 10. (RECOMMENDED) Apply SoSafe Safety Shield to protect against future graffiti.

# SoSafe Red Graffiti Remover for Professionals – Useful to remove Shadows

- 1. Surface must be clean.
- 2. Test an in conspicuous part of surface to test for product reaction.
- 3. Wipe over graffiti with a wire / plastic brush.
- 4. Apply product undiluted to graffiti
- 5. Allow at least 2 minutes for product to penetrate graffiti.
- 6. Scrub graffiti with wire / plastic brush
- 7. Pressure clean surface with high pressure hose (hot water preferable) with your back to the wind, hit the wall at a 45 degree angle approximately 100mm from the surface.
- 8. Repeat steps 4 to 7 (as required).
- 9. NOTE: to remove difficult shadows, spray professional on surface and leave for an extended period (the shadow will fade away).
- 10. (RECOMMENDED) Apply SoSafe Safety Shield to protect against future graffiti.