



Gravel-Lok Maintenance Guide

Routine Maintenance:

Keep the Gravel-Lok surface swept clean with a stiff bottom broom and a hose with clean water. The Gravel-Lok surface can be power washed with cold water using a low pressure tip. The wand should be held no closer than 8" to the surface.

Snow Plowing:

Use extreme caution when using a snow plow or other snow removal equipment.

However, a snow plow can gouge the surface, even if a rubber blade is used.

The removal of ice and frost from the surface can be achieved by the application of salt.

You can also use salt to pre-treat. Other ice-melt products will work fine too.



Over time, a certain percentage of stones will come loose. Typically, about 1% of stones will come loose annually and this rate will increase with pedestrian or vehicular traffic. If the installation is located in a public space, the rate of loose stones will be even higher. The use of bikes, skateboards, roller blades, wheelchairs, luggage with wheels, shopping carts, etc. will increase the rate of loose stones. If there is patio furniture you may notice an increased number of stones coming loose where people pull in their chair and it drags across the surface of the pavement. Even high heeled shoes can cause additional stones to come loose. In the event of vehicular traffic (golf carts, forklifts, snow plows, lawn equipment, cars, etc.) a greater percentage of stones will come loose due to the pressure and traction of tires gripping the surface, especially where tires turn.



Frequency of maintenance depends on the owner of the project and their expectations. If this is a public space you may need to inspect the surface regularly to look for divots that have formed. Divots can be a tripping hazard. A divot forms when a stone comes loose and then adjacent stones are more vulnerable and have a greater chance of coming loose and the effect snowballs, similar to a pothole in a road that starts out small and becomes larger over time if not repaired. Homeowners who have residential installations can make their own decision about frequency of maintenance depending on their tolerance for loose stones. Some people don't want to see any loose stones and they have to routinely maintain the surface. Other people will wait many years until many loose stones have accumulated and then decide to perform maintenance.



Maintenance can include:

1. Patching any divots
2. Applying roll coats
3. In some cases, applying a 'skim coat' or 'thin overlay' of new stones mixed with Gravel-Lok liquid.

For divot repair and roll coats it is imperative to use the same version of Gravel-Lok that was used for the initial installation.

Gravel-Lok is available in two formulas: Amber and Clear. These formulas are chemically very different. Therefore, they do not bond to each other. For example, if you apply a Clear Gravel-Lok roll coat to a previous Amber Gravel-Lok installation, it will look white because the two formulas will not bond. A space forms and it looks white to our eyes.



Gravel-Lok™
CLEAR BINDER (includes UV additive)

Gravel-Lok is a single component, moisture curing liquid scientifically designed to bind together clean aggregates from 1/8" up to 3" in size for a variety of applications. Suitable for residential pathways, patios, garden paths, filling joints between flagstones, french drains, stone scaping around flower beds, gardens, and tree surrounds.

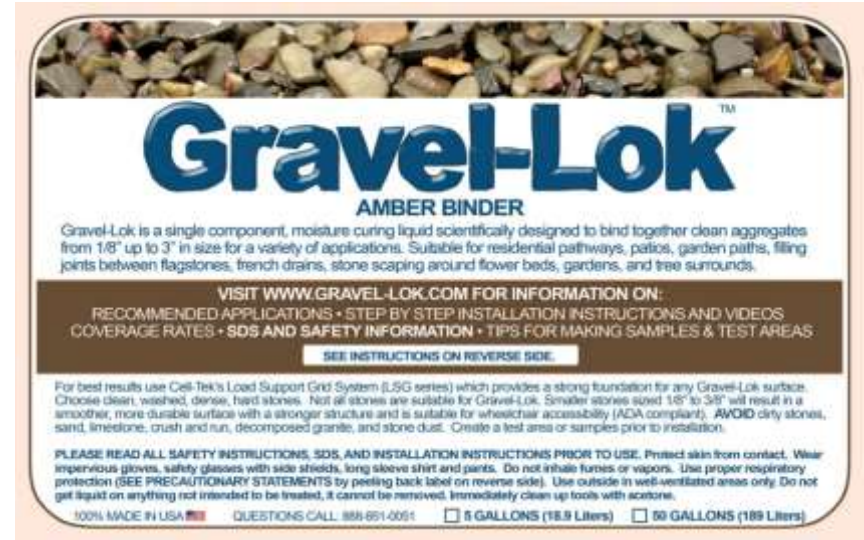
VISIT WWW.GRAVEL-LOK.COM FOR INFORMATION ON:
RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS • STEP BY STEP INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS AND VIDEOS
COVERAGE RATES • SDS AND SAFETY INFORMATION • TIPS FOR MAKING SAMPLES & TEST AREAS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE.

For best results use Cell-Tek's Load Support Grid System (LSG series) which provides a strong foundation for any Gravel-Lok surface. Choose clean, washed, dense, hard stones. Not all stones are suitable for Gravel-Lok. Smaller stones sized 1/8" to 3/8" will result in a smoother, more durable surface with a stronger structure and is suitable for wheelchair accessibility (ADA compliant). AVOID dirty stones, sand, limestone, crush and run, decomposed granite, and stone dust. Create a test area or samples prior to installation.

PLEASE READ ALL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS, SDS, AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO USE. Protect skin from contact. Wear impervious gloves, safety glasses with side shields, long sleeve shirt and pants. Do not inhale fumes or vapors. Use proper respiratory protection (SEE PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS by peeling back label on reverse side). Use outside in well-ventilated areas only. Do not get liquid on anything not intended to be treated, it cannot be removed. Immediately clean up tools with acetone.

100% MADE IN USA ■ QUESTIONS CALL: 888-651-0051 5 GALLONS (18.9 Liters) 60 GALLONS (189 Liters)



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All 5 gallon containers are BLUE.
All 1 gallon containers are WHITE.

CHECK LABEL CAREFULLY! The only way to know what you have is to check the label.



CLEAR LABEL



AMBER LABEL

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Wear Protection!



PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

HANDLING & STORAGE

Handling: Do not breathe the mist, vapors or spray. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area. Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, eye protection and face protection. In case of inadequate ventilation wear respiratory protection. Keep container closed when not in use. Do not reseal if contaminated. Keep away from heat and flame.

Storage: Store in tightly closed containers in cool, dry and well-ventilated area away from heat or sources of ignition. Keep out of direct sunlight.
Storage Temperature: 60°F - 90°F (15.6°C - 32.2°C).

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Eye/Face Protection: Wear a face shield and chemical safety glasses or goggles.

Skin Protection: Wear impervious gloves. Cover exposed skin.

Respiratory Protection: For airborne exposure above the exposure limit(s), wear a NIOSH approved air-purifying respirator equipped with organic vapor cartridges. For situations where the atmospheric levels may exceed the level for which an air-purifying respirator is effective, use a positive-pressure air-supplying respirator.



Replacing Pits or Loose Areas

Pits, loose areas or divots can be patched. Remove all loose stones as well as any stones which are barely attached. Remove stones which may be encased in too much cured Gravel-Lok. The goal is to create a “clean” divot that is lined by clean, bonded stones. Next, make sure your new stone is clean and completely dry. Now you are ready to repair the area using one of these two methods below:

Note: All stone needs to be clean and dry before adding using the Gravel-Lok Liquid



Option 1: Mixing Method

- Mix your clean, dry decorative stone with Gravel-Lok in a 5 gallon bucket, wheelbarrow, or mixer. (Mix ratio: 20-22 ounces of Gravel-Lok liquid per five gallon bucket of stone.) Place the mixture into the divot and trowel smooth.
- Be sure to wait 24 hours for the area to completely cure and then apply a roll coat to further secure this area. See “Roll Coat” section below.

Option 2: Pour Method

- Fill the divot with your new clean, dry decorative stone. Using a garden pail with small holes in the spout, sprinkle Gravel-Lok lightly over the stones, coating the entire area evenly. (Coverage rate is about 18 square feet per gallon which is equal to 90 square feet per five gallon container of Gravel-Lok.)
- Be sure to wait 24 hours for the area to completely cure and then apply a roll coat to further secure this area. See “Roll Coat” section on Slide 10.

Roll Coat Materials needed: (1) paint roller and (1) paint tray

The application of roll coats will help to preserve the bonded surface.

How often do I apply roll coats? For low traffic areas, roll coats should be applied every 3-6 years or as needed. For high traffic areas, roll coats should be applied every 1-3 years **or as needed**.

Blow off any loose stones*. Pour Gravel-Lok liquid in a paint tray. Using a medium sized paint roller, apply a thin coat of Gravel-Lok over the entire surface. Allow 24 hours to fully cure after applying the roll coat.

*If the pavement is too loose, meaning that stones at the top are in place but very loose, you may need to do a light pour instead of a roll coat. Otherwise, loose stones will stick to the roller. A light pour can be done with a plastic watering pail or gravity wand.

- Coverage Rate for Roll Coat: One five gallon container of Gravel-Lok will cover 400-500 square feet. (One gallon container will cover 80 – 100 square feet)



Resurfacing / Skim Coat

This optional process involves resurfacing the entire area with a new thin layer of bonded stones - a mixture of Clear Gravel-Lok liquid mixed with small 1/8" sized stones.

If there are pits, loose stones or divots, remove all loose stones as well as any stones which are barely attached. Remove stones which may be encased in too much cured Gravel-Lok. The goal is for each divot to be lined by clean, bonded stones. Then, make sure the surface of the entire area is clean, dry and free of any debris. Mix Clear Gravel-Lok with clean and dried 1/8" sized stones. (Mix ratio: 22 – 24 oz. Clear Gravel-Lok liquid per five gallon bucket of 1/8" sized stones.) Use this mixture to fill up any divots and continue spreading a thin layer of the mixture over the entire surface, troweling it out smooth to completely cover the previous surface.

Note: Be sure to wait 24 hours for the area to completely cure and then apply a roll coat to further secure this area. (See "Roll Coat" section on Slide 10)

Clean up spills immediately with acetone



If you use acetone before the Gravel-Lok liquid cures it will typically work to dissolve and remove any Gravel-Lok liquid that got on flagstone, concrete or brick.

TIP (pour method)



STREAKING:

When applying Gravel-Lok with a watering can (this is just one application method), it can be difficult to regulate the flow. Keep it moving and sprinkle lightly. See photo below that shows “streaking” as a result of applying too much liquid in certain areas.



Tip (pour method)



If you are going to pour more liquid on to secure loose areas or repair divots, be careful to not apply too much liquid. More is not always better. The rate should be 1 gallon per 18 – 20 sf.

Why?

Gravel-Lok is a moisture curing liquid. As it cures, gases are released from the molecules. If there is too much liquid in one place the gases from the molecules in the center of the mass will not be able to properly escape. Bubbles will form. This photo shows foaming as a result of over-application.

In some cases, you can crush the foam with a brush. This must be done immediately and will only work if there is a small amount of foaming.



If an area is sloped, keep in mind it will flow to the low point. Reduce quantity of liquid to avoid having liquid pool up at the low point. Too much liquid = foaming.





Questions? Call 410-721-4844.

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