

GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Graffiti is illegal and a form of vandalism

Placing graffiti on public or private property without permission is a criminal offence under the *Police Offences Act 1935*, specifically [section 15CA](#).

Graffiti includes writing, painting pictures, slogans, or stencilling on public or private property without permission or in accordance with Council's Planning Scheme.

If you see someone placing graffiti on property you should report it to police immediately on 131 444.

Quick removal

Graffiti should be removed as soon as possible after it appears. This is because:

- there is less time for the graffiti to bleed into the surface material, making removal easier.
- it reduces the exposure for the graffitiist's work; and
- when graffiti writers see graffiti at a site, they will often want to place their own work next to it –

i.e. leave one 'tag' and you may get several more.

Only through local community support and individuals taking responsibility for their property can graffiti be reduced.

When a property owner takes responsibility and removes or covers graffiti on their property, the visual amenity is improved for everyone.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVAL?

ON COUNCIL PROPERTY:

The Glenorchy City Council is responsible for removing graffiti from infrastructure managed or owned by Council. This includes road, footpaths, street furniture, sculptures, artworks, bridges and its buildings. Glenorchy City Council keeps a register of all graffiti on Council property on a digital mapping system.

ON NON-COUNCIL AND PRIVATE PROPERTY:

Private property owners / occupiers / managers are responsible for

removing graffiti on their property. Glenorchy City Council may advise the owner /occupier of the property to remove the graffiti. An owner or occupier of a property must ensure that graffiti placed on their property is removed, painted over, or otherwise permanently blocked from being viewed from a public place, as required by the *Glenorchy City Council Environmental Amenity By-Law 2017*.

Council resources may be used to remove graffiti on private and non-Council property where graffiti is considered offensive and/or is of a political/religious nature.

PREVENTION

Reduce the likelihood of graffiti on your property by:

- planting dense shrubs, creepers, or installing trellis along a wall or fence.
- painting in dark colours – this can reduce the contrast of tags.
- keeping your property well maintained – these properties are less likely to be targeted.
- remove obstructions that block views from the street or neighbouring buildings.

- making sure the site is well-lit at night – motion sensor lights are great for this.
- installation of CCTV cameras and/or signage that highlights monitoring of the area.
- using high gloss paint or anti-graffiti coatings.
- remove occurrences of graffiti as soon as possible.

An anti-graffiti coating on a wall may make future removal easier by making it harder for paint to stick to a surface.

Council also aims to work with young people to encourage them to undertake artwork in designated areas, rather than where it is unwanted and illegal.

REMOVAL TIPS

The two main methods to remove graffiti from your property are with **liquid removal** or by **painting out**.

LIQUID REMOVAL

For painted and protected surfaces, such as wood, metal or concrete surfaces that have a topcoat:

- use a commercial remover e.g. ‘Muck Off’ or a citrus-oil based product

- always test a small area to start with and gradually increase intensity.

For bare or raw surfaces, such as stone, concrete, brick and metal:

- apply a commercial remover, wait five minutes then use a wire brush, rinsing with water to remove the graffiti residue.

For glass, plastics, and other synthetics:

- most graffiti removers will work well on glass or otherwise a blade scraper may be effective.
- do not use caustic cleaners for glass or aluminium. Greater care needs to be taken with plastics and other synthetics.

PAINTING OVER GRAFFITI

- first, clean the surface well to remove as much of the graffiti as possible.
- aim for the closest match possible to the original paint or surface finish. Alternatively, you can paint the entire area in a darker colour to the nearest architectural break to deter a recurrence of graffiti.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU FOLLOW ALL HEALTH AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS AS DETAILED ON THE PRODUCT LABEL OR PACKAGING.

GRAFFITI REPORTING

HELP KEEP OUR CITY CLEAR OF GRAFFITI BY REPORTING UNSIGHTLY GRAFFITI TO GLENORCHY CITY COUNCIL ON [62166800](tel:62166800). IF YOU SEE SOMEONE IN THE ACT, REPORT IT IMMEDIATELY TO POLICE ON 131444