



HARDSCAPE & MASONRY

## CLEANING GUIDELINES

Professional Use

### Professional Grade Hardscape Cleaning



Mutual Materials recommends cleaning as a standard final step on all hardscape installation projects. Cleaning the project can enhance color; remove efflorescence, halos, scuff marks, jobsite debris, and dirt; and result in high customer satisfaction for their new hardscape project.

For professional installers, Mutual Materials recommends NMD 80™ New Masonry Detergent from EaCo Chem, is an effective cleaning solution for hardscape installations.

NMD 80 New Masonry Detergent is also popular for cleaning mortar stains from concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls.

#### Cleaning as a final installation step can:

- Remove and prevent efflorescence
- Bring out the true color
- Prepare for sealing
- Result in happy customers

BEFORE



AFTER



#### WHAT IS EFFLORESCENCE?

The white powdery deposit that sometimes appears on concrete products is called efflorescence. Efflorescence is a natural condition that is common with new concrete products and usually dissipates and clears up on its own over time. The white deposit is the residue of a soluble salt, carried to the surface of the product through the process of evaporation, and wet damp environments can increase efflorescence. Tips to reduce or eliminate efflorescence:

- During installation, immediately remove the plastic and install concrete product upon arrival.
- Store material in a dry area.
- Cleaning and sealing is the final step for new hardscape project installations will minimize the risk of efflorescence.
- Older projects can also be cleaned and sealed to reduce or remove these effects.

IMPORTANT: Efflorescence does NOT have any adverse effect on the integrity or durability of the paver, slab or concrete wall block.

*See reverse for instructions and equipment information.*



MUTUALMATERIALS®



# Cleaning Hardscape Installations with NMD 80™ New Masonry Detergent:



1. Always test product on a small area (or sample hardscape) first and allow 24-hour dry-time to determine ease of application and desired results.
  2. Lightly pre-wet the hardscape surface (do not soak). If plant material is nearby, protect and/or keep wet during chemical application.
  3. Place the NMD 80™ container inside a larger plastic container to prevent accidental tipping or spilling contents. Insert the EC Jet into the end of washer pressure washer. Insert the metal siphon tube into the detergent container.
  4. Apply NMD 80 through the EC Jet (diluted to 4:1 ratio) to the hardscape surface to be cleaned. Ensure to overlap each stroke to achieve full, even coverage.
  5. Allow product to dwell for 5 to 7 minutes, being careful to not allow the product to dry on the hardscape surface.
  6. **DO NOT RINSE.**
  7. Once again, apply NMD 80 through the EC Jet to the hardscape surface. Allow product to dwell again for 5 to 7 minutes. This melts away any remaining oils/stains/residue/efflorescence. If there is no foaming, the hardscape surface is ready to be rinsed.
  8. With NMD 80, the longer it stays on the hardscape surface, the cleaner the result and the least amount of rinsing is required. Do not allow the product to dry on the hardscape surface.
  9. Remove the EC Jet from pressure washer. Insert a 40° fan tip. Begin rinsing from highest to lowest elevation. Use long, even strokes that overlap each other. This low pressure rinse with a pressure washer is best practice for rinsing hardscapes.
  10. Allow hardscape to dry for 24 hours then inspect treatment. Repeat steps 2–9 as necessary, to achieve desired result.
- NOTE:** Rinse pressure is always determined by the masonry manufacturer's requirements. Color-sensitive surfaces should always be rinsed with low pressure.

**Note: Complete information about NMD 80™, including the Safety Data Sheet, can be found online at [www.eacochem.com](http://www.eacochem.com).**

## **SPECIAL EQUIPMENT NOTE:**

**EC Jet for Pavers is recommended equipment for application of this product.**

EC Jet is a quick coupling attachment to the end of your pressure washer designed to dilute material 4:1. It allows application of diluted NMD 80™ over a 30-foot section without moving the detergent container.



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