

THE PAVER EDIT

BY CROSSROADS PAVING SOLUTIONS

A SEASON OF GRATITUDE & BEAUTIFUL SPACES

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As November arrives, we're reminded that some of life's best moments happen right at home. From welcoming family and friends to gathering around the pool or patio, beautifully designed outdoor spaces help make those moments memorable.

PREPARING YOUR OUTDOOR SPACES FOR HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

Simple Tips for Keeping Your Pavers Looking Their Best

The holiday season is just around the corner, and in South Florida, that means more opportunities to entertain outdoors! Whether you're hosting Thanksgiving dinner, welcoming family for the holidays, or enjoying a relaxing evening by the pool, your outdoor spaces deserve to look their best.

Beautifully maintained pavers provide the perfect foundation for memorable gatherings. With a little preparation, you can keep your driveway, patio, walkways, and pool deck looking inviting throughout the holiday season.

1. Start with a Fresh, Clean Surface

Over time, pavers can accumulate dirt, leaves, mildew, and other debris. Begin by sweeping away loose materials and rinsing surfaces with water. For stubborn stains, use a cleaning product specifically formulated for your type of paver. Avoid harsh chemicals and excessive pressure washing, which can damage natural stone, disturb joint sand, or affect certain surface finishes.

2. Check for Uneven or Loose Pavers

Before guests arrive, take a quick walk around your outdoor areas. Look for shifting, settling, or uneven pavers that could create tripping hazards. Addressing these issues early helps maintain both the beauty and safety of your outdoor spaces.

3. Give Your Paver Joints Some Attention

Joint sand plays an important role in maintaining the stability of interlocking paver surfaces. If you notice missing or deteriorating sand between your pavers, consider having it professionally evaluated and replenished as needed. Proper joint maintenance can help minimize movement and discourage weed growth.

4. Consider Whether Your Pavers Need Sealing

Sealing can enhance the appearance of certain pavers and provide additional resistance to staining, but not every surface requires it. The right sealer depends on the material, existing finish, and desired appearance. Natural stone, particularly around pools, requires special consideration to avoid unwanted discoloration or slippery surfaces. Consult a qualified professional before applying a new sealer.

5. Add a Touch of Holiday Elegance

Once your pavers are looking their best, complete the transformation with seasonal decorations! Elegant lanterns, comfortable outdoor furniture, warm accent lighting, and tasteful autumn arrangements can turn a patio or pool deck into a welcoming holiday retreat. For a distinctly South Florida Thanksgiving, consider incorporating tropical greenery with warm gold, copper, and burnt-orange accents. The result is festive, sophisticated, and perfectly suited to our beautiful fall weather.



ASK THE PAVER EXPERT: WHY DOES PROPER JOINT SAND MATTER?

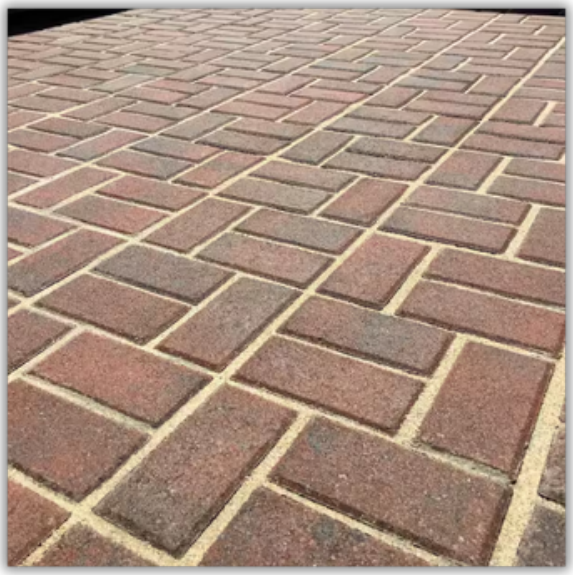
When admiring a beautifully installed paver driveway, patio, or pool deck, it's easy to focus on the color, pattern, and overall design. But one of the most important elements of a successful paver installation is something you might barely notice: ***the sand between the pavers.***

Small Joints, Big Responsibilities

Joint sand does much more than fill the spaces between pavers. It helps distribute loads between adjoining units, limits unwanted movement, and contributes to the overall stability of an interlocking paver system. Without properly filled joints, pavers may become more susceptible to shifting, loosening, and edge damage over time, particularly in high-traffic areas such as driveways.

Not All Joint Sand Is Created Equal

Two common options used in paver installations are:



- ***Traditional joint sand:*** Properly graded sand that fills the joints and supports interlock between pavers. It may require periodic replenishment due to erosion, cleaning, or everyday wear.
- ***Polymeric sand:*** A specialized blend containing binding agents that harden when properly activated with water. When compatible with the paver material and correctly installed, it can help resist washout, insect activity, and weed growth.

The best choice depends on the paver material, joint width, installation method, drainage conditions, and manufacturer recommendations.

South Florida's Climate Makes Maintenance Important

Between heavy summer rains, humidity, and frequent outdoor use, South Florida paver installations face unique challenges. Over time, joint material can wash away or deteriorate, creating openings where debris collects and weeds may take root. Periodically inspecting your paver joints and addressing missing sand can help preserve the appearance and performance of your outdoor surfaces.

A Little Maintenance Goes a Long Way

One simple tip: After cleaning your pavers, take a moment to inspect the joints. If you notice significant gaps, loose pavers, or recurring sand loss, have the area evaluated before simply adding more sand. These symptoms can sometimes indicate drainage or base-related issues that need attention.

ONE-MINUTE PAVER TIP

QUICK TIPS

Leaving organic materials sitting on natural stone or concrete pavers for extended periods can lead to some unpleasant surprises! When leaves, mulch, and plant debris become wet, they can release natural pigments and tannins that leave behind stubborn brown or yellowish stains. Certain types of mulch, particularly dyed varieties, can also transfer color onto porous paver surfaces. In South Florida's warm, humid climate, accumulated organic debris can trap moisture, encourage algae and mildew growth, and create conditions where weeds can take root between pavers.

The Simple Solution

- **Sweep regularly.** Remove leaves, grass clippings, and other debris before they begin decomposing.
- **Keep mulch contained.** Use landscape edging to prevent mulch from washing onto pavers surfaces during heavy rains.
- **Address stains promptly.** Clean affected areas with a paver-safe product appropriate for your specific material.
- **Pay attention to drainage.** Avoid allowing wet debris and standing water to accumulate on your pavers.

DESIGN INSPIRATION: THIS MONTH'S LOOK

Mediterranean



Clay brick pavers bring a classic Spanish or Italian influence to outdoor spaces, particularly when installed in herringbone or basketweave patterns.

Style: Clay pavers
Color: Tumbled java
Tumbled cocoa (border)
Size: 4X8
Pattern: Herringbone

A Heartfelt Thanksgiving Message

This Thanksgiving, we're especially grateful for the homeowners, builders, partners, and hardworking team members who have been part of our journey. Thank you for trusting CrossRoads Paving Solutions to help create beautiful spaces, one paver at a time.

READY TO TRANSFORM YOUR PROPERTY?

Whether you're replacing an aging driveway, renovating your pool deck, creating a new patio, or beginning a larger construction project, CrossRoads Paving Solutions can help you explore the possibilities.

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