

# Gather Co

## Sealing Procedure

Terracotta & Sensitive Surfaces

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# Special Notes

Sealing is an essential step in the installation process and paramount to maintaining the aesthetic of newly installed surfaces.

Gather Co is pleased to nominate Actichem Australia as our recommended sealer supplier. Actichem is a highly reputable brand, known for industry leading quality and a willingness to back their products.

This document is intended as a guide only. Requirements for each project will vary depending on site conditions and the surface being treated.

To ensure suitability, always conduct testing over a small discrete area prior to the commencement of any sealing works.

All further enquiries must be made with Actichem directly.

ACTICHEM™ 1800 108 800 / [actichem.com.au](http://actichem.com.au)

***Gather Co does not extend warranty over any Actichem product. All warranty claims attaining to sealing agents must be made with Actichem directly. Please click [HERE](#) to view their full warranty.***



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## 1. SEALING FORETHOUGHTS

When selecting any product within the Gather Co collection, consideration must be given to ensure each product is suitable for the intended application.

Gather Co is pleased to provide the following advice in addition to the product sale. In almost all cases, we recommend following the manufacturers directives. These tips are to be used in conjunction with the relevant Australian Standards.

Gather Co recommends sampling sealing products & procedures prior to commencing site works, to ensure appropriate measures have been addressed.

Gather Co has partnered with highly reputable industry leaders to supply the very best in waterproofing, grouts, adhesive and sealing products. When using our recommended products, it is always advised to follow the manufacturers guides and specifications.

### 1.1 Supply Partner

Our recommended sealing supply brand is: ACTICHEM™ 1800 108 800 / [actichem.com.au](http://actichem.com.au)

When applying any product detailed in this document, the following must be taken into account:

### 1.2 Weather Conditions

An important consideration is weather. Air temperatures during the sealing process should sit between 15 and 30 degrees celsius. Strictly avoid exposure to any moisture whilst the sealing agent is in the prescribed curing period.

### 1.3 Coverage

The following tables can be used as an approximate guide when quantifying the required sealer volumes:

Actichem - Solv Sealer Gold

MATERIAL	HONED (m <sup>2</sup> /Litre)	TEXTURED (m <sup>2</sup> /Litre)
BASALT	16.00	10.00
GRANITE	16.00	13.00
LIMESTONE	13.00	10.00
MARBLE	13.00	10.00
PORPHYRY	16.00	13.00
QUARTS	13.00	10.00
SANDSTONE	4.00	4.00
SLATE	5.00	5.00
TERRACOTTA / BRICK	6.00	6.00
TRAVERTINE	13.00	10.00

Actichem - Defender CSD 50

MATERIAL	POOL SURROUND (m <sup>2</sup> /Litre)
BASALT	6.00
GRANITE	8.00
LIMESTONE	6.00
MARBLE	6.00
PORPHYRY	8.00
QUARTS	6.00
SANDSTONE	3.00
SLATE	4.00
TERRACOTTA / BRICK	6.00
TRAVERTINE	8.00

**\*Please note** - these values are **approximates**, based on 2 coats and may vary significantly due to atmospheric conditions, application method, stone formation and surface texture.



## 2. SEALING PROCEDURE

The following procedure has been developed as best practice for sealing terracotta & sensitive surfaces. Typically, these products will require a specialised sealer treatment. This will assist in protecting against sustained exposure to water, salt, organic matter, body oils, and food/beverages contaminants - all of which have the capacity to negatively impact both the visual appearance and physical integrity of installations.

When employing the proceeding method, we highly recommend applying both Defender CSD 50 & Solv Sealer Gold by Actichem.

Always follow the direct guidance of Actichem when applying any of their products:

ACTICHEM™ 1800 108 800 / [actichem.com.au](http://actichem.com.au)

### 2.1 Product Discussed

#### Actichem Defender CSD 50:

Consolidates and strengthens the exposed surface, whilst adding powerful water repellency.

#### Actichem Solv Sealer Gold:

Provides repellency against oily grimes, food, beverages and water ingress.

### 2.2 Adhesive Compatibility

When a surface is pre-sealed with CSD 50 Defender by Actichem prior to installation, it will become highly water repellent. This means that a standard water based adhesive may not effectively adhere to the surface. Only a suitable polymer modified adhesive can be used, which is specifically designed to overcome the repellency of a penetrating sealer.

We only recommend the use of 335 Premium Flexible Adhesive by Laticrete when pre-sealing with CSD 50 Defender by Actichem.

### 2.3 Preparation

Actichem sealers are comprised of artificial chemicals. This necessitates the engagement of adequate PPE during preparation, application and clean-up procedures. Protective equipment must include; rubber gloves, safety glasses, covered footwear and full-length clothing.

### 2.4 Equipment

1. PPE.
2. Flat bottom plastic tray.
3. Rubber squeegee.
4. White colour fast non- staining absorbent cloth.
5. Sponge or paint pad.

### 2.5 Method

1. Consult directly with Actichem before applying any of their products:  
ACTICHEM™ 1800 108 800 / [actichem.com.au](http://actichem.com.au)
2. Don personal protective equipment (PPE).
3. To ensure compatibility, always test sealers on a small inconspicuous zone, prior to attempting the greater surface treatment.
4. Newly installed surfaces must be fully cured for a minimum of 48 hours, before applying any sealing agents.
5. Ensure the surface being sealed is entirely free from contamination and completely dry.
6. Both Defender CSD 50 & Solv Sealer Gold by Actichem are single part products that must **not** be diluted.
7. Apply Defender CSD 50 by Actichem using a pump sprayer, paint pad applicator, lamb's wool applicator, sponge or brush.
8. Allow penetration for up to 5 minutes. If surface is drying within this period, apply additional sealant to maintain surface moisture for a minimum of 5 minutes.
9. On horizontal surfaces a rubber squeegee may be used to migrate any excess sealant to the next section receiving treatment.
10. Wipe treated surface completely dry using clean cotton, paper or microfibre towels after each application. **DO NOT ALLOW EXCESS CHEMICAL TO DRY ON THE SURFACE.** Methylated Spirits may be applied with a clean towel to remove any dried surface residue.
11. Ensure that only a maximum of 10m2 is treated at a time. Complete steps 7, 8, 9 & 10 before progressing to the next 10m2 section.
12. A minimum of two applications must be administered. Porous surfaces may require additional treatments.
13. After an initial 2-hour drying period, conduct testing to ensure the surface is adequately sealed. Simply apply water to a small sample section. If the water penetrates, an additional application is necessary.
14. Supplementary to the Defender CSD 50 treatment, a final coat of Solv Sealer Gold By Actichem must be applied. Only attempt this after a 1 week curing period has been observed. Simply repeat the above procedure.

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## 2.6 Cure Periods

Allow 30 minutes drying time between coats of Defender CSD 50 by Actichem.

Solve Sealer Gold by Actichem may only be applied after a one week curing period has been observed, following the final coat of Defender CSD by Actichem.

Please note - these time frames relate to conditions of 20°C & 70% RH. If temperatures are lower or humidity is higher, cure periods may increase.

Light foot traffic across sealed surface is acceptable after a minimum 12 hour curing period. Keep dry for the first 24 hours after application.

Full cure is achieved between 14-28 days.

## 2.7 Clean Up

Clean tools with mineral spirits after use. Please remain considerate of the environment and dispose of all excess chemical responsibly.

## 3. MAINTENANCE OVERVIEW

Ongoing maintenance regimes may vary from surface to surface. Regular cleaning will reduce the risk of soiling through dirt, mould and efflorescence. Please refer to our "Maintenance Guide" document for further detail on compatible products and best practice procedures.

### 3.1 Cleaning

ProNeutro from Actichem is a new generation, neutral pH detergent that is great for natural stone surfaces. Only competent and experienced cleaning professionals should attempt the use of acid based products on stone surfaces.

For further advice, please contact Actichem directly:

ACTICHEM™ 1800 108 800 / [actichem.com.au](http://actichem.com.au)

### 3.2 Re-Sealing

Both Solv Sealer Gold & Defender CSD 50 by Actichem will provide ultimate protection for up to 15 years. That said, application methods, weather conditions, traffic and invasive cleaning chemicals may significantly reduce this timespan. It is highly recommended that sealers be re-applied every 5 – 7 years in commercial settings or wherever the treated surface is exposed to harsh conditions.

For further advice, please contact Actichem directly:

ACTICHEM™ 1800 108 800 / [actichem.com.au](http://actichem.com.au)



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