

Graffiti in Kingston – Excerpt: Removal from Porous Surfaces

2.1.1 Porous Surfaces

The first step of the removal process is the application of Eco Porous*. This product will remove most new marks with a single application, however sometimes, especially on very old graffiti, a shadow of the original remains on the wall. Over time exposure to the sun will fade this ‘ghost’. If desired Eco Shadow can be applied to remove the remainder. Again, if the graffiti is very old a very slight mark may still be visible, however, it will fade upon exposure to the sun. Though Downtown Kingston! generally removes graffiti from porous surfaces with the aid of a pressure washer, these products also have directions for use without a pressure washer. Testing with agitation using a heavy scrub brush and a simple spray bottle, to simulate the most drastic removal situation, has produced extremely favorable results surpassing other products tested. A simple hose, aided by a faucet adapter where the correct faucet threading is not present, can also be used to wash the surface of the building. Upon purchase, information sheets accompany the aforementioned removal products.¹ These sheets include the types of surfaces they can be used on, safety considerations and product application instructions. Ensure that you abide by the recommended safety protection including gloves and goggles, especially when handling ‘Eco Shadow’, as contact with skin may cause irritation.

Note: In some cases when applied to red spray paint the red will turn navy blue. This colouring will be removed with the rest of the marking.

New graffiti is exponentially easier to remove than old graffiti, especially spray paint on a porous surface. If you can still smell the paint, the mark will be relatively easy to remove. Spray paint consists of three components; a pigment, a binder and a solvent. The solvent keeps the paint in liquid form, once it has been sprayed the solvent slowly evaporates. The sooner you remove the graffiti, the less likely it is that the solvent has had time to evaporate and the binder time to set, thus the time and effort required for the removal process is dramatically decreased. Also studies show that the most effective method of deterring vandals is rapid removal. If the graffiti is removed within 24 hours, graffiti writers will cease to waste their time and supplies as it undermines their efforts for peer recognition.

2.1.1.1 Permanent Marker on a Porous Surface

Smooth, porous surfaces are frequent targets for permanent marker. Removing a mark of this nature will take a considerable number of applications. Using a combination of both Eco Shadow and Eco Porous will be beneficial to reduce the number of applications and therefore the time required for removal. Eco Shadow is not as viscous as Eco Porous and thus does not cling to smooth, porous substrates as readily. An application of Eco Shadow followed shortly after by an application of Eco Porous works well in this type of

¹ Copies of these information sheets as well as the associated MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) can be found in Appendix C

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situation. Agitation of the surface using a sturdy scrub brush periodically as the product is working is recommended as well.

2.1.1.2 Heavy Graffiti Applications

Extremely heavy applications of graffiti require several product applications, as layers of paint need to be removed. A combination of Eco Porous and Eco Shadow will speed up this process as well. Apply Eco Porous to the surface and wait the recommended time. Do not rinse the product off. A thin layer of Eco Shadow can then be applied overtop of the first application, agitated with the paint brush or a scrub brush to work the product in and then allowed to stand the recommended time again. For best results the wall should then be rinsed with a pressure washer. Though this speeds up removal, the process may need to be repeated depending on the number of layers of paint that has been applied to the surface as well as the age of the paint.

* Note: Since the time of publication, the names of the removal products have changed. Eco Porous is now Elephant Snot. A new product, Rhino Blast has also been created that works extremely well using cold water. This product can be substituted for Elephant Snot. Both MSDS are attached.

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Graffiti Solutions Canada

Product Data on – Elephant Snot (Eco Porous) Graffiti Remover

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Elephant Snot previously called Eco Porous Graffiti Remover is custom formulated for a "porous" surface. Elephant Snot is the workhorse for the most difficult of porous surface removal requirements. It penetrates deeply into concrete, cement, brick, grout, stone, virtually anything porous to dissolve & loosen all types of tags..

RECOMMENDED FOR REMOVAL ON:

Brick, mortar, masonry, cement, concrete, stucco, terrazzo, pavers, porous tile.
Natural stone surfaces such as granite, marble, sandstone, rocks, both porous/rough or polished.
Also effective on: Glass, ceramic, porcelain, glazed tiles, grout.

PRODUCT FEATURES/BENEFITS:

- **Non-drip** formula for easy application without messy runs and drips.
- **Fast removals** – clings to the surface for maximum penetration and maximum speed of removal.
- **Low odour** with minimum or no ventilation requirement for added safety, indoor or out
- **Water hose pressure** removals options for "no pressure washer required" benefits.
- **Non-flammable**, non-combustible, minimal fire hazard formulary. No special storage requirements.
- **All temperature** effective removals from freezing cold to very hot conditions.

GENERAL INSTRUCTION FOR USE:

- Wear protective eyewear and gloves. Do not get into eyes or on exposed skin areas.
- Apply by brush or roller. Water cleanup recommended after each use.

- Allow to penetrate marks for 15-20 minutes (longer in cold temps.)
- Use power washer with 15° tip with 1000 - 3000 PSI maximum pressure. For optimum performance and removal speed use hot water (190°F.)
- Alternative Method: Allow to penetrate for 30-35 minutes, agitate with stiff brush, and remove with water hose at maximum nozzle pressure.
- Repeat process if necessary. Use "Shadow Max" to remove any ghosting or shadow.

SPECIFICATIONS/ GENERAL PROPERTIES:

CONSISTENCY

No drip gel clings to vertical surfaces without dripping.

COVERAGE

300 to 800 Sq. ft./gal. depending on porosity of surfaces.

USE TEMPERATURES

Not limited; will work slower at cold temperature.

STORAGE

Stores between 40°F and 130°F. **DO NOT FREEZE.** If frozen, thaw and remix before using.

FLAMMABILITY

Non-flammable, non-combustible. Flash point over 200°F.

V.O.C.s

.4lbs/gallon, 50 grams/litre. H.A.P.S. -none

VOLATILITY

Very low rate of evaporation. No ventilation required unless used in a confined space.

BIODEGRADABLE

Yes.

SHIPPING

Not regulated. D.O.T. Proper shipping name: Cleaning Compound N.O.S., Class 55.

EFFECTIVE ON THE FOLLOWING:

Spray paint graffiti, marker, pen, ink, crayon, shoe polish, lipstick, pencil, and most other graffiti marks or stains.

Other Uses:

Removes road tars, asphalt, oils, greases, gum, wax, tree sap, and many other difficult to remove marks or stains from all types of porous or other recommended surfaces.

Paint spills on floors, adhesives, caulking compounds, spray booth over sprays, even many difficult to remove 2-part paints, epoxies, urethanes, can be removed effectively with Elephant Snot.

NOTE: If removing "shadows or ghosts" from any of the above surfaces, we recommend the use of Shadow Max Graffiti Remover for maximum effectiveness.

For removals from all types of metals, "durable" baked on painted surfaces such as auto, bus, truck, other factory applied paints, fiberglass or bare wood, use our Smooth Max Graffiti Remover.

Licensed under the Environmental Choice Program ECP 57 Lic#ECP02007

Distributed by: Graffiti Solutions Canada
7785 Franktown Rd., Richmond, Ont.K0A2Z0
Tel:613-838-5842
Email:sales@graffitisolutionscanada.com
www.graffitisolutionscanada.com



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MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: Elephant Snot Graffiti Remover

Chemical Name/ Chemical Family: N/A

Section 1. Product Information
Manufactured by: Graffiti Solutions Inc
2472 – 7th Ave. E., North St. Paul
651-777-0849
Emergency Telephone: Chemtrec 800-424-9300

Prepared by
W. Gorbunow
Date: Mar. 09/07

HMS Rating: Health 0, Flammability 1, Reactivity 0, Special 0
NFPA Rating: Health 0, Flammability 2, Reactivity 0, Special 0
Degree of Hazard: 0=Least, 1=Slight, 2=Hazard, 3=Extreme Hazard, 4=Deadly

Section 2. Hazard Ingredients

Components (C.A.S.#) OSHA-PEL ACGIH-TLV %WT
Trade Secret

Section 3. Physical Data

Melting Point	NA
Boiling Point	212F
Evaporation Rate (Water =1):	NDA
Solubility in Water:	100% miscible
Percent Volatility:	Over 70%
Viscosity:	Over 1000 cps
Specific Gravity (Water=1):	1.07
Vapour Density (Air=1):	Heavier than air
Vapour Pressure:	NDA
Appearance & Odour:	Syrupy Tan liquid, low odour
Ph:	11-12

Section 4. Fire and Explosion Hazard Data

Flash Point (Method used)	Over 200F
Auto-Ignition Temperature:	NE
Upper/Lower Explosion Hazard:	NE
Extinguishing Agents:	Foam, dry chemical, water fog or water.
Use water spray to cool fire exposed surfaces and to protect personnel. Use Extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.	
Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards:	None

Section 5. Reactivity Data

Stability:	Stable
Incompatibility:	Avoid contact with acids or oxidizers
Hazardous Decomposition Products:	None known
Hazardous Polymerization:	Will not occur
Conditions to Avoid:	Do not mix with other chemicals.

NA = NOT APPLICABLE NDA = NO DATA AVAILABLE
NE = NOT ESTABLISHED

Section 6. Health Hazards/First Aid Information

Health Hazard (Effects of overexposure):

1. **Inhalation:** Exposure to vapour or spray mist may cause moderate to severe irritation of the respiratory tract. Symptoms may include: headache, nausea, and difficulty in breathing.
2. **Eyes:** Direct eye contact may cause moderate to severe eye irritation. The severity of the effects depends on the concentration and how soon after exposure the eyes are washed. Symptoms of exposure may include: a stinging sensation, excess tear production, redness and swelling of the conjunctiva.
3. **Skin:** Exposure may cause moderate to severe irritation. The severity of the effects depends on how soon after exposure the skin is washed. Symptoms may include: redness and/or a burning sensation.
4. **Ingestion:** Ingestion may cause moderate to severe irritation of the mouth, throat and gastrointestinal tract. Symptoms may include: nausea, headache, dizziness and abdominal pain.
5. **Carcinogenicity:** None (as per 29CFR 1910.1200)

Emergency and First Aid:

1. **Inhalation:** Immediately move subject to fresh air. Seek medical attention if irritation or difficulty in breathing persists.
2. **Eyes:** Immediately flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes while holding eyelids open. If irritation persists, consult a physician.
3. **Skin:** Immediately flush skin with water for 15 minutes. Remove any contaminated clothing or shoes. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
4. **Ingestion:** Do not induce vomiting. Drink one or two glasses of water. Consult with a physician if any irritation or pain persists.

Notes to Physicians: No specialized procedures. Treat for clinical symptoms.

Section 7. Spill Procedures / Special Precautions

Spills: Keep spectators away. Floor may be slippery. Contain spills with inert materials. Transfer any liquids or absorbed wastes to separate suitable container, for recovery or disposal. Follow protective measures provided under Special Protection Information in Section 8 of this MSDS.

Waste Disposal Method: Dispose of as local and federal regulations require.

Handling / Storage Precautions: Do not mix with any other chemicals. Do not freeze. Store between: Minimum 40F Maximum: 130F. Keep container tightly closed. Do not eat, drink, or smoke while handling material. Wash with soap and water after each use. Observe label instructions.

Section 8. Special Protection Information:

Eye Protection: It is recommended, that suitable eye protection is used when handling this or any other chemical. ANSI Z 87.1 or equivalent splash goggles recommended.

Protective Gloves: Neoprene or equivalent solvent and chemical resistant gloves recommended.

Ventilation: Not required under normal use. If used in a confined space use local exhaust ventilation, pulling fumes and vapours away from personnel.

Respiratory Protection: Not required under normal use. If sprayed or working in a confined area wear respirator (MSHA/NIOSH approved mist organic vapour cartridge or equivalent).

This information is furnished without warranty, representation, inducement or License of any kind, except that it is believed accurate to the best of manufacturer's knowledge, or obtained from sources believed to be accurate. Manufacturer does not assume any legal responsibility for reliance on same. Before using any chemical, read its label and product literature to determine suitability for the intended use.

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Graffiti Solutions Canada

Product Data on – Rhino Blast Graffiti Remover

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Rhino Blast is a thick biodegradable product formulated for use on porous surfaces of all types (also works great on many smooth surfaces).

RECOMMENDED FOR REMOVAL ON:

Brick, slate, mortar, masonry, cement, concrete, stucco, terrazzo, pavers, porous tile, Terra Cotta, cinder blocks, granite, marble, sandstone, rocks, both porous/rough or polished, Railroad Cars, Postal Boxes, glass, ceramic, porcelain, glazed tiles, grout and wood

PRODUCT

FEATURES/BENEFITS:

- Unlike most products on the market, you do not need a second product to remove shadows! Just re-apply a second time and remove!
- Low odour
- Non – flammable
- Works well in all temperatures; extend dwell time as temperatures drop.
- Can be sprayed or brushed on.
- Coverage between 300 to 1000sq.ft depending on surface and paint type.

Distributed by: Graffiti Solutions Canada
7785 Franktown Rd., Richmond,
Ont.K0A2Z0
Tel:613-838-5842 or 866 906-9273
Email:sales@graffitisolutionscanada.com
www.graffitisolutionscanada.com

GENERAL

INSTRUCTIONS:

To blast away offending graffiti follow these simple steps:

1. Brush or spray Rhino Blast onto the graffiti, work it in with a brush
2. Let it soak for 10 – 30 minutes. Soak time may vary depending on THE TEMPERATURE, the type of graffiti and the surface that it is on. If temperatures are below 0°C, warm product & shake before applying
3. Rinse off with pressure washer or garden hose; cold water can be used but best results are attained with hot water. Repeat process if necessary.
4. **ALWAYS TEST ON HIDDEN AREA BEFORE APPLICATION!!**

CAUTION:

Avoid contact with eyes. If contact occurs, rinse with water for 10 minutes. If swallowed do not induce vomiting; get medical attention. Wear protective goggles & chemical resistant gloves during handling and use. Provide ventilation if working in a confined area.

Do not store above 120°F. If frozen, thaw and mix thoroughly before using.

BIODEGRADABLE

Yes.

SHIPPING

Not regulated. D.O.T. Proper shipping name: Cleaning Compound

EFFECTIVE ON THE FOLLOWING:

Spray paint graffiti, marker, pen, ink, crayon, shoe polish, lipstick, pencil, and most other graffiti marks or stains.

Other Uses:

Removes road tars, asphalt, oils, greases, gum, wax, tree sap, and many other difficult to remove marks or stains from all types of porous or other recommended surfaces.

Paint spills on floors, adhesives, caulking compounds, spray booth over sprays, even many difficult to remove 2-part paints, epoxies, urethanes, can be removed effectively with Rhino Blast.



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MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product Name: Rhino Blast Graffiti Remover

Chemical Name/ Chemical Family: N/A

Section 1. Product Information

Manufactured by: Graffiti Solutions Canada
7785 Franktown Rd. Date: Oct. 30/06
613-838-5842 or 866 906-9273
Emergency Telephone: Canutec (613) 996-6666

Prepared by
C.Devlin

Section 2. Hazard Ingredients

Components (C.A.S.#)	%WT	LD-50	LD-60
Potassium Hydrate	n/a	15/25	
Monoethanolamine	n/a	8/18	
Surfactants	n/a	8/25	
Trade Secret	n/a	25/50	

Section 3. Physical Data

Physical State	Liquid
Color & Odor	Clear, faint aromatic odor
Evaporation Rate (Water =1):	N/A
Vapour Pressure:	N/A
Vapour Density:	N/A
Boiling Point:	N/A
Freezing Point:	N/A
Specific Gravity:	N/A
Water/Oil Distribution Coeff.	N/A
Odor Threshold	N/A

Section 4. Fire and Explosion Data

Flammability	NO
Auto-Ignition	N/A
Means of Extinction	Same as surrounding fire
Flash Point	N/A
Flammability Limit	N/A
Sensitivity to Impact	N/A
Hazardous Combustion Products	N/A
Static Discharge	N/A

Section 5 Reactivity Data

Chemical Stability:	Stable
Chemical Incompatibility:	Incompatible with acids
Reactivity	N/A
Hazardous	N/A

Section 6. Toxicological Properties

Effects of Exposure – none under normal use
Sensitization N/A Carcinogenicity No
Exposure Limits N/A Mutagenicity N/A
Teratogenicity N/A Reproductive N/A
Synergistic N/A Irritancy mild

Section 7. Health Hazard

Ingestion - Yes Skin – Mild Irritant
Inhalation – Mild Irritation to lungs Eyes - Burning sensation

Section 8. First Aid Measures

Eyes-Flush with water 15 minutes; seek medical attention
Skin-Wash with soap and water; if irritation persists seek medical attention.
Inhalation- Remove to fresh air.
Ingestion- Do not induce vomiting; drink large amounts of liquids and see medical attention immediately.

Section 9. Protective Measures

Gloves- Rubber or neoprene gloves
Eyes – Wear goggles
Respirator- Not required under normal use
Footwear/Clothing – N/A

Section 10. Spill or Leak Procedures

Spill or Leak – Soak up with absorbants
Waste Disposal – Check local regulations

Section 11. Storage, Handling, Shipping & TDG Regulations

Proper Shipping Name – Not Regulated
Shipping Name – Rhino Blast
Storage & Handling – Store in a cool place
UN or Pin# - N/A Whmis Group – N/A
Listed on DSL List - NO

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NE = NOT ESTABLISHED