

## Goldpath FAQ's

### Is Goldpath free draining?

No Goldpath self-binding gravel is not free draining so ideally requires a camber or cross fall so water will shed from its surface into adequate drainage.

### How much does 1 tonne cover?

One tonne will cover approximately 8sqm laid at our recommended depth of 50mm for pathways or 4sqm at 100mm for roadways.

### Can I use a membrane directly under the Goldpath?

No Goldpath must be laid directly onto a sub-base such as MOT type 1. You can use a membrane underneath the sub-base if required.

### Can I lay Goldpath on top of existing concrete or asphalt?

No, any existing concrete or asphalt must be broken up and removed. We recommend laying directly onto a MOT Type 1 sub-base. This will provide a solid sub-structure for the Goldpath and has holes which the Goldpath gravel fills, grips and binds on to. During long spell spells of rain some rainwater may soak into the product and the MOT Type 1 sub-base underneath will allow that water to continue to drain away. Concrete or asphalt would not facilitate this, and water would be held in or below the layer of Goldpath causing it to soften and pothole.

### Do I need to use edgings?

Edgings are optional. Concrete, timber, metal or stone edgings can be used and will help achieve fullest compaction. However, edgings should not stand proud of the Goldpath Gravel. If this is the case with timber or metal edgings, then holes must be drilled through the edgings at half metre intervals at the level of the surface, or a 'v' can be cut down to the Goldpath level to allow water to flow off the surfaces. If curbs or sets are used as edgings the mortar joint can be left out at half metre intervals, again, this will allow water to escape from the surface.

### Can I lay Goldpath in the rain?

If it is very light rain it can help the water rolling process, however if the rain is persistent or heavy it will cause issues when laying so we don't recommend laying it in the rain.

### Can I lay Goldpath in frozen conditions?

No, Goldpath should never be laid if the ground is frozen. It can lead to movement and shrinkage of the material when the ground thaws.

### Can I lay Goldpath on a slope?

We do not recommend laying Goldpath on a slope steeper than a 1 in 15 gradient, this is because the action of storm water flowing across the surface can cause damage to the material and can result in the occurrence of pot holes and ruts. Where you have a slope steeper than 1 in 15 you can install steps at irregular intervals to reduce the risk of ruts occurring and damage to the finished surface.

### Will the material get stuck to my shoes?

Yes, Goldpath will get stuck to the bottom of shoes, especially when the material is wet. The dusting effect will lessen with time once the material has been weathered.



**Can I wash my car on a Goldpath driveway?**

We do not recommend washing a car on the Goldpath Surface. A hard surface area would be preferable.

**What is the minimum/maximum gradient to shed surface water?**

An adequate gradient for smaller areas (such as footpaths) would be 1 in 50 to allow water to shed from the surface. However, for large surface areas such as car parks or driveways, a minimum of 1 in 40 gradient would be preferable (25mm drop for every metre of width).

**What equipment do I need to lay it?**

We suggest using a flat boarded rake to initially spread the material (you can use the back of a garden rake, but do not use the prongs as this could pull up the coarse components to the surface). For footpaths a minimum of 1 tonne sit-on water roller, for larger areas, a 1.5 tonne sit-on water roller. A soft broom can then be used to finish.

**How much water is required?**

In hot, dry spells more water may be required and in winter slightly less. Please be aware the water which is dispelled from a vibrating roller will be inadequate and additional water will be necessary but not applied gently to material to avoid separating the fines.

**How long does Goldpath take to set?**

The time taken for the surface to set is dependent on the weather conditions at the time of laying. It can vary from between 1 week in the height of summer to two weeks plus in the wet colder winter months. Goldpath should be treated with care in the first 3 months whilst continuing to set completely. After that, the more the area is used the better it will perform.

**Can you mix Goldpath with cement?**

Cement can be manually blended into Goldpath; however, this may cause a few issues. Goldpath is a natural quarried limestone material and by manually mixing 1-part cement to 10-parts Goldpath this could affect the consistency of colour. Cement will only help the material set a little quicker, it will not give the product more strength and it will not stop the surface from lacerating.

**Can Goldpath be stored for longer periods of time before use?**

Yes, Goldpath can be successfully used after being stocked or stored for longer periods of time. However, if during this period the material is left to completely dry out the aggregate and fines may separate which will affect the laying of the product leaving coarse areas. If the material has been stored it is always advisable to gently add moisture and turn and re-blend the stockpile prior to use.

**Can heavy vehicles use the area?**

Goldpath has the strength and durability to allow vehicles to drive carefully on the surface. However, be aware that if a vehicle is stationary and the wheels are turned, this could cause scuffing and pot holes, particularly when the material is wet. It is advisable to apply a speed limit of 5 mph.

**Can I brush the surface?**

We recommend brushing the surface with a soft broom, especially just after the Goldpath has been water rolled as there may be some lines from the roller in the material. This will create a nice smooth surface. Goldpath will naturally self-scarify with use but if you choose to remove the surface chippings for visual purposes, a soft broom can be used



to do so. However please note the surface will continually scarify so this process may need to be repeated if a smoother appearance is required.

### **Is Goldpath suitable for use on car parking areas and driveways?**

Yes, but please keep in mind that Goldpath is a 100% natural limestone product and will sustain scuff damage to its finished surface if the steering is used on stationary vehicles or if vehicle wheels are spun upon it. This can lead to the occurrence of potholes and therefore the project will require a higher level of maintenance to keep the surface in good order. The preferred design for a driveway or car parking area using Goldpath is where the vehicle is driven onto and reversed off without the need to turn the steering. Where these turning points are required then an alternative surface would be a better choice in these areas.

Please ensure that adequate drainage is installed in proportion to the surface area being laid. If rainfall is not dispelled rapidly this can lead to an ingress of surface water which will prevent the hardening and binding process of the Goldpath.

### **Is Goldpath suitable for bridleways?**

Yes, but as bridleways are often in woodlands or fields, try to get the sub-base above ground level and then lay the Goldpath on the top to allow water to drain off the surface. If edgings are not used, then the material should be laid to a camber and feathered off at the edges. If this isn't done and the bridleway is lower than the surrounding area, water will flow down onto the bridleway and will pond causing weakness and potential potholes.

### **Is Goldpath suitable for Seating/Patio Areas?**

Goldpath can be used underneath seating areas, however dragging of patio furniture feet across the surface may dig into the surface causing it to scuff so regular maintenance will be required. A paved hard surface area would be preferable in this instance. Please ensure adequate drainage is installed so that surface water is not held on the patio area.

### **Is Goldpath suitable for wheelchair use?**

Yes, when Goldpath is installed in accordance with our laying instructions, it provides a solid bound base which does not separate or segregate with wheelchair use. The surface does lightly scarify with use which will leave a dressing of grit/chippings on the surface. Please note that this may pick up on shoes or wheels so it would be advisable for a hard-paved area prior to entering a building to reduce the migration of dust.

### **Can Goldpath be used in tree pits?**

If it is not possible to roll the material around tree pits then hand compaction must be used as it must be laid onto a sub-base. There must be watering points for the trees as Goldpath is not free draining. Please be aware that movement of tree roots in time may cause cracking of the material and after rainfall continual drips from branches may wash away the fines content leaving coarse chippings on the surface.

### **What do I do if potholes occur?**

If a pothole occurs, it must be repaired as soon as possible otherwise rainwater will lie in the hole and soak into the Goldpath making the pothole larger. Cut out a square of material around the pothole down to the sub-base, water the sub-base if it is dry and then lay in new material, roll and compact and then water roll up to existing level.

