

Kings College London

Surface material: Lime stone

Product: STAIN-PROOF™

Project Completed: 2008

**Accredited Applicator:
Really Safe Flooring
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The Project

Kings College is situated in the heart of London and is one of England's oldest and most prestigious universities with over 19,700 students. The College's highly porous limestone paving had just been treated to rejuvenate it aesthetically and roughen the surface to improve traction when wet. A special sealer was required which would not reverse the improved surface traction of the limestone.

Special Requirements

- 1) The most important requirement was that the sealer would not reverse the improved traction of the limestone to retain the slip resistance of the surface for the students and staff.
- 2) Anti-slip treatments make a surface rougher and more porous, and therefore harder to clean, more prone to staining and more prone to water ingress which can encourage moss and mildew growth, salt efflorescence, freeze-thaw spalling and other structural damage. An all-in-one sealer was required that would:
 - a. Have an excellent oil and water repellence
 - b. Prevent liquids from entering the roughened surface
 - c. Prevent staining and making cleaning easier
 - d. Be fully breathable to allow moisture to evaporate from underneath
 - e. Not break down under a commercial and rigid cleaning regime
- 3) The lifespan of the sealer and speed of application were crucial as re-sealing could further impact Kings College activities.

The Dry-Treat solution

Dry-Treat's world leading, invisible impregnator, STAIN-PROOF™, offered a complete solution for sealing the highly porous green limestone paving of London's Kings College.

The chemistry of STAIN-PROOF™ is unique. Specially engineered molecules which are thousands of times smaller than competitor sealers penetrate much deeper into the pores of the material, where they then bond permanently, by chemical reaction, without affecting the look or breathability of the material. A sufficiently deep, permanent water and oil-repellent barrier is created, which is able to effectively protect against staining and even structural damage caused by water ingress, and which stands up to highly alkaline cleaning chemicals and commercial cleaning techniques such as pressure hosing.



As STAIN-PROOF™ works from inside the pores of the building material, it does not affect slip resistance when the surface is wet. (See independent slip testing of STAIN-PROOF™ by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) on the Dry-Treat website at www.drytreat.com).

The porous green limestone paving was sealed with two coats of STAIN-PROOF™ by Accredited Dry-Treat Application Company *Really Safe Flooring*, which specialises in slip resistance treatments, restoration and sealing of porous surfaces. The look, finish and slip resistance of the limestone surface were unchanged after treatment. STAIN-PROOF's extended lifespan will not cause future interference because, unlike many other impregnators, resealing every couple of years is not required. The project is backed by a standard, 'no fine print' STAIN-PROOF™ 15-year performance warranty.