

# GRAFFITI REMOVAL TIPS AND TECHNIQUES

## Safety Tips

- Be aware of your surroundings
- Do not possess or use alcohol/drugs while working
- Obey warning signs, posted instruction, and placards regarding restricted areas
- Wear proper clothing, something you can get paint on
- Wear protective equipment when specified by graffiti remover product manufacturer
- Do not stand on unsafe equipment
- Please dispose of all hazardous materials in accordance with City and State guidelines
- When possible, go out with a friend. Remember: Safety in numbers!

## Step-by-Step Removal Tips

### 1. **Identify the method of application and the surface**

The sooner you remove graffiti, the easier it is to clean. Before you select the best removal method, identify the surface to be cleaned and the method used to apply the graffiti. Smooth, hard surfaces are the easiest to clean and rough, porous surfaces are the most difficult. Materials used to apply graffiti include spray paint, grease pencils, felt-tipped pens, water-based paint, stickers, shoe polish and even crayons.

### 2. **Choose a removal method**

Try using soap, water and a soft brush first. If that doesn't work, use a removal product that's appropriate for the application method and surface. In many instances, graffiti can be cleaned using a removal product rather than painting over it. Removing graffiti is preferred since it is easier than painting and eliminates the difficulty of matching paint. The removal materials listed are inexpensive, portable and easy to use. Most are non-toxic and acquired easily.

While the brand name products listed below are not the only ones on the market, they can be very effective in removing graffiti.

### 3. **Locate removal supplies**

There are local agencies that offer removal supplies that citizens can check out and use free of charge.

1. **Klamath Kiwanis Club – Graffiti Abatement.** Mike Angeli (541) 892-4229 or The Ledge at (541) 882-5586.
2. **Diamond Home Improvement.** Contact City Code Enforcement (541) 883-5358 to find out how to get free paint from Diamond Home Improvement.
3. **Integral Youth Services.** Mike (541) 882-2053
4. **City of Klamath Falls Police Department.** (541) 883-5336
5. **Home Depot.** (541) 884-0075

## **Caution!**

*If you use chemicals, follow manufacturer's instructions and wear proper protective equipment. Some removers may damage some painted surfaces.*

## Graffiti Removal at a Glance

Surface	Method of Graffiti	Removal Method
Painted wood or metal	Pens	Denatured alcohol or Lift Off or similar product
Painted wood, concrete or metal	Spray paint	Denatured alcohol or repaint
Traffic signal boxes	Any	Lift Off or similar product
Unpainted concrete, stucco or aggregate	Pens or spray paint	Lift Off or similar product, then water under pressure with a wire brush
Glass or plastic	Pens, spray paint or stickers	Window scraper, then denatured alcohol