

What is graffiti?

Graffiti is the name for images or lettering scratched, scrawled, or more usually spray-painted on property that does not belong to the artist. It is often regarded by others as unsightly damage or unwanted vandalism.

What effects does graffiti have on a community?

The presence of graffiti gives the impression that vandalism is tolerated and that owners do not take pride in the upkeep of their homes and business establishments. Property values can decrease and the safety of the neighbourhood is questioned.

Should I remove the graffiti I have now or wait and see if I get hit with more graffiti?

The best and most effective strategy to stop repeated graffiti hits is to **remove the graffiti as quickly as possible**. Also from a technical point of view, the fresher the graffiti, the easier it is to remove.

Delays in removal tend to encourage graffiti vandals to expand the graffiti to adjacent properties. In this way, graffiti can act as a magnet and attract more graffiti to the area.

Steps to take if your property is targeted with graffiti:

1. The above information was lifted from the Internet. The Carnbee Owners Association (COA) encourage owners to report graffiti to the Police (Howdenhall Police Station, Tel No - 0131 666 2222) as soon as possible after it happens, they should obtain a reference number from the Police.
2. The Police will want to come out and see the graffiti, but if they are not going to attend for a few days and you wish to remove the graffiti immediately then take photos of it prior to doing so with a digital camera.
3. You have 2 options available for removal:
 - a. Do it yourself. This is the cheapest option. Swarfega Graffiti Remover spray which is available from B&Q (Costs around £9.99) is a high performance, ready-to-use graffiti remover trigger spray that quickly rinses away to leave a clean surface.
 - b. Arrange for someone to come and remove it for you. This is a far pricier option but they do a great job. There are various companies out there who will do it for you. The COA got a quote from Edinburgh Council (Robert Davidson Email [-robert.davidson@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:robert.davidson@edinburgh.gov.uk)) we were quoted roughly £85+VAT.

If you know of someone who will come out and clean off graffiti at a reasonable price please let us know. Alternatively if you have any tips etc we could add to this document please let us know.