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# **M1 – Footway Materials & Surfacing**

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# **Footway Materials and Surfacing**

Footways generally require a surface material and a kerb or channel edge. Surfacing of footways in Edinburgh varies from a basic asphalt surface to paving flags including precast concrete units and natural stone.

## **Special materials**

It should be ensured that these materials can be readily sourced. These materials should also be recorded in the Street Gazetteer to inform that a special material shall have to be reinstated following any maintenance works.

## **Historic environment**

Original historic materials and paving are protected by planning legislation. See principles and details set out in Paving the way, CEC (2008) and Setts and the City, Edinburgh World Heritage (2004). Please note that these are not public documents but may be available upon request at the discretion of The City of Edinburgh Council.



Edinburgh World Heritage, 2016

There are many historic streets that retain their original stone paving as paving flags, setts or horonised surfacing. Some streets also retain granolithic concrete which also has historic importance.



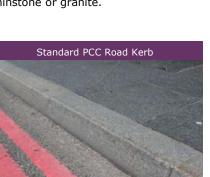
Marshalls, 2016

There are other types of surface that may be used outwith conservation areas which include mono blocks and precast units.



Edinburgh World Heritage, 2016

Original historic kerbs and channels and those replaced in high quality schemes in Edinburgh are either whinstone or granite.



Transport for London, 2015

In many contexts concrete kerbs and channels are acceptable.



The Manhole Covers of Spitalfields, 2011

A number of traditional historic features remain in the streets (natural stone lighting blocks, mounting blocks and cast iron coal covers) and should be retained and restored.



The City of Edinburgh Council

Footpaths may also require tactile paving of concrete or natural stone.

Relevant Factsheets:

Tactile Paving (M4) Setted Street (M6) Footway Paving (M3) 1

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## **Key Principles**

Footways should be laid with consistent fabric treatment for the length of the street. The street will be defined either as the section identified as having a specific street type, or that relates to a particular urban form and context.

In areas outside or adjoining public streets such as squares and public spaces, there are opportunities to introduce a wider variety of materials and paying styles that respond to modern design proposals.

There will be a presumption for the use of natural paving materials in key public spaces (see page 4 for details).



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### **Relevant Factsheets:**

Tactile Paving (M4) Equality Impact Rights Assessment (P2)

## Construction

Footways should be constructed without awkward or abrupt changes in level, with suitable engineer designed subbase/construction designed for the anticipated loadings. Well constructed footways reduce the risk of failure which leads to trip hazards.

All surfaces for pedestrians should be well drained, even, firm, non-slip and free from glare in both wet and dry conditions. The slip resistance of the footway surface must meet the requirements of HD 39/01.

New footways should have residual weed killer spread prior to the sub base being laid.



The City of Edinburgh Council

### Water channels

Water channel covers, gratings, etc. should be flush with the surface.

Flat water channels should be a contrasting color and of a size and shape that does not trap small wheels (typically, channels 200mm wide are problematic). Gratings should be at right angles to the line of pedestrian flow so as not to trap small wheels, etc. with openings no more than 13mm.

## **Tactile surfaces**

Suitable tactile paving should be used where appropriate, including blister paving to identify pedestrian crossing places and hazard paving at steps and ramps. Se M4.

Stainless steel studs should be avoided as they are a potential slip hazard.

## **Protection from parking** and vehicle over run

To protect pedestrians and pavements from vehicular overrun, some footways require additional street furniture. Alternative solutions to the use of Bollards, such as cycle racks or planters, should be considered in these situations.

Where bollards are to be installed they should add to and respond to the wider design and layout of the street.

Reinstated paving should match surrounding paving materials.

## **Boundary protection**

Care must be taken to ensure protection is provided for boundary walls and entrance features, especially within streets in conservation areas.

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## **Materials Overview**



The City of Edinburgh Council, 2014



Marshalls, 2016



Central Landscaping Service

#### **Type Advantages**

### Asphalt

- Fast and simple construction
- Joint free finish
- Durable
- Easy to replace
- Difficult to match surface level/colour when reinstated
- Coloured surfaces available

## Artificial Stone

- Concrete Paving/ Widely available
  - Cost éffective
  - 20-40 year lifespan
  - Can be reinforced
  - Easy to replace

## Natural Stone

- High quality
- Range of finishes, colours and sizes available
- Durable
- Relatively low maintenance
- Suitable for areas of historical importance
- Long life span (60+ years)

#### Setts Extremely durable

• Historic significance and place identity

Relatively low maintenance

- Low maintenance
- Long life span

• Permeable

Hard wearing

• Do not fade

### **Disadvantages**

- Lower quality aesthetic
- Unsuitable for areas of importance
- Low cost
- High loading values
- Liable to crack (dependent on thickness and sub-base)
- Unsuitable for areas of civic importance
- Some maintenance required
- High material cost
- Skilled installation
- Difficult to colour match replacements
- Some stone prone to staining
- Liable to crack (dependent) on thickness and sub-base)
- High cost
- Uneven surface (except for flat topped setts)
- Difficult to remove
- Difficult to lay with other materials
- Prone to deformation
- · Require solid base
- Skilled installation required
- Seamless repairs difficult



Atkins 2016



Atkins 2016

## Relevant Factsheets:

Resin bound

Gravel



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## **Recommended Material by Street Type**



Google Maps, 2016

## **Out-with conservation areas**

	Rural roads / No frontage	Industrial Employment	Low Density Residential	Med Density Residential	High Density Residential	Service Sector Retail / High Employment Streets
Strategic					Concrete paving /	
Secondary	Asphalt			Asphalt	Natural stone / Concrete paving	
Local						



The City of Edinburgh Council

## In conservation areas

	Rural roads / Indus No frontage Employ	I )Ancity	Med Density Residential	High Density Residential	Service Sector Employment	Retail / High Streets	
Strategic							
Secondary	Asphalt	Cond	Concrete paving / Asphalt			Natural stone	
Local							

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## **Image References**

#### **Footway Materials and Surfacing**

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Standard PCC road kerb: Transport for London, (2015), Concrete Kerb [ONLINE]. Available at: https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/policy/streetscape-guidance/ [Accessed 1 November 2016].

Tactile paving in correct locations: The City of Edinburgh Council

#### **Key Principles**

Flush Drainage Channel: The City of Edinburgh Council Stainless Steel Tactile Studs: The City of Edinburgh Council

#### **Materials Overview**

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Natural Stone Paving, Edinburgh: Atkins (2016)

Setts, Edinburgh: Atkins (2016)

#### Recommended Material by Street Type

Asphalt Footway Edinburgh: Google Maps. [ONLINE]. Available at: https://goo.gl/maps/7v3nn2EbEiP2\_[Accessed 5 December 2016]

Princess Street Paving: The City of Edinburgh Council

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