

Dark colours

Paint walls and fences in dark colours – green or brown. Darker colours are more resistant to lighter coloured markers and darker coloured spray paints.



Remove props

Rubbish and recycling bins can be used as props to reach higher spaces. Keep these out of reach if possible.

Neighbourhood support

Form or join your local Neighbourhood Watch Group and become involved in local initiatives to protect areas targeted by taggers.



Quick removal

Graffiti attracts more graffiti, and it is easier to clean off if done within 48 hours.

Graffiti Removal Methods

There are three key steps in the removal of graffiti:

1. Identify the surface type and substance to be removed. This will help you select a removal method.



2. Removal could include painting out, chemical removal or pressure washing (such as water or sand blasting).
3. Following graffiti removal you may want to apply prevention measures, including anti-graffiti paints and powders. Check the Yellow Pages for suppliers.

Reporting graffiti

To report graffiti on:

- Private property - phone the police.
- Telephone cabinets - contact the Chorus Vandalism hotline 0800 222 638
- Power poles and transformer boxes - contact Eastland Network 06 869 0700 or email info@eastland.co.nz
- Your neighbour's property - have a chat with them - they may not realise it's there.
- Council property or assets such as bus shelters, litter bins, parking meters, street furniture, public toilets, road signs, street lights, traffic barriers, bridges, Council buildings, monuments or statues - please tell us (contact details below).



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Graffiti prevention tips



Purpose

Graffiti is a crime and blight on the urban landscape. Council is working in collaboration with the Police and the community to reduce the impact of graffiti in Gisborne. You can follow these helpful graffiti prevention tips to minimise risk of graffiti to your property. Some tips on how to remove graffiti are also included.

Transparent fencing

Avoid high solid fences and walls in the first place. These provide an attractive canvas for taggers. Consider 'transparent/see through' fencing or railings instead, like pool type fencing. To make transparent fencing even more see-through paint with dark colours.



Privacy can be maintained by planting a hedge or shrubs inside the fenceline, but not too high to ensure sightlines and 'eyes on the street' are retained where possible.



Keep your house clean

Keep your property looking neat and clean. A property that looks neglected attracts graffiti vandalism. One tag leads to another.

Slatted fencing - offset panels

Slatted fencing provides privacy and also reduces the impact of graffiti. It is much more difficult to graffiti offset panels, and the effect of graffiti is greatly reduced.



As you can see the side-walk has been affected by graffiti instead of the fence.

Green fencing

Plant a hedge, shrubs or hanging plants in front of a wall or fence, but don't obscure windows. Make sure trees and plants are not too invasive and do not damage your property.



Thorny plants

To limit access to, or around your property, consider planting thorny natives and other plants like Purple Berry or Chinese Holly Grape.



Texture and rough surfaces

The choice of construction and design materials can make a difference. If solid walls and fences can't be avoided, consider rough and textured surfaces as these are less attractive to taggers. Enamel panels, glazed ceramic tiles and plastic laminates make for easier cleaning.



Lighting

Increase visibility at night by installing lighting. Lights with motion sensors are a popular choice as they only activate when a person approaches.

