

The background is a monochromatic blue image featuring a close-up of water with intricate ripples and reflections. A hand is visible on the right side, holding a pen that appears to be writing on a surface. The overall aesthetic is clean and professional.

HOW TO GUIDE

SPILL CONTAINMENT

DEXTERS®
WAREHOUSE EQUIPMENT

3 STEPS TO

CLEANING UP SPILLS

Once a spill has reached soil or any broken ground, the control, containment and clean up of the spill often becomes more difficult than it would be on a hard surface. It is important therefore, to try and contain the spill to the road, carpark or hard surface.

The clean up procedures described in these notes are for minor spills (few litres) to medium spills (1500 litres) of oil or fuel. In the event of a major spill, a different technique may be more appropriate.



Firstly, before attempting any spill clean up, ensure the area is safe to enter. Ensure traffic can not enter the area and that the spill crew can work safely. Be aware of

fumes and approach the spill site from upwind. Always ensure personal protection equipment is worn.

CLEANING UP AN OIL SPILL

ON ROADS OR HARD SURFACES



Control The Spill

Stop the source of the spill. For example, upright the drum or stop the pump, turn off all ignition sources and locate the drains.



Contain The Spill

Use absorbent booms, banks of soil, hoses or any safe objects to surround and prevent the spill from further impacting the environment. Often with a spill onto a hard surface, the liquid will travel very quickly in the initial few moments. Prevent the spill from entering drains and culverts. Drains often lead to the broader environment and can create larger problems. Dangerous fumes can also build up in low lying areas.

Clean Up

Large pools of spilled liquid should be recovered with absorbent pillows and pads. The remaining spill should be covered with a layer of ground absorbent, which is used to absorb any free liquid and prevent vehicles skidding. These absorbents are swept into the spill with brooms or a road sweeper. All absorbent materials should be reclaimed and disposed of in accordance with local regulations.

CLEANING UP AN OIL SPILL

IN A RAIN AFFECTED AREA



Control The Spill

- Ensure the area is safe to enter.
- Be aware of fumes and approach from upwind.
- Wear suitable PPE for the situation.
- Ensure the spill does not continue- close valves, lift drum to upright position, etc.

Contain The Spill

Using the absorbent booms found in the spill kit, surround the spill to prevent it from entering drains, sewage systems, pipes and cable ducts. Whilst ensuring booms surround the area and corral the spill, flood the area with water and direct the thinly spread spill to a low area in the yard. This technique needs to be handled carefully and be well managed. Linking the booms together with cable ties, slowly walk from the shallow end of the contained puddle to the deeper section, dragging the booms across the water's surface, thus concentrating the oil into a small area.

Clean Up

- Leave the booms in the water to absorb more oil.
- Place pillows in the deeper section of the puddle to capture the bulk oil.
- Use pads to finish the clean up by placing on top of any residual floating oil.
- Place all used absorbents into disposal bags for transport by a waste control company.

CLEANING UP AN OIL SPILL

ON SOIL



Control The Spill

Stop the source of the spill. For example, upright the drum or stop the pump, turn off all ignition sources and locate drains.

Contain The Spill

Use absorbent booms, banks of soil, hoses or any safe objects to surround and prevent the spill from further impacting the environment. Often with spills on soil, little sideways movement occurs after the initial few moments. Unless the soil is extremely compacted or wet, the spill will soak directly into the ground.

Clean Up

Large pools of liquid may be absorbed with pillows, pads or particulate. These absorbents are then recovered for disposal. The remaining spill should then be covered with a layer of ground absorbent which is used to absorb any free liquid.

