

ALFRESCO

SUMMER
2026

Summer Fun

As the warmer months settle in, life naturally spills outdoors. Patios host everything from relaxed lunches to evening catch-ups, gardens stay busy, and high-traffic areas around the home start working harder day after day as we make the most of summer living.

With all that extra use, exterior surfaces can quickly start to show the signs. Built-up dirt, algae, and weather staining quietly accumulate through spring, and by summer they're hard to miss. A professional clean doesn't just improve how your home looks, it helps protect surfaces and keeps outdoor areas safer and more enjoyable all season long.

Summer is also when solar panels are at their most

effective. Keeping them clean allows them to capture more sunlight, helping them run more efficiently and potentially saving you money on energy bills. Dust, pollen, and debris can all reduce performance if left unchecked.

At Alfresco Exterior Cleaning, we help homeowners refresh patios, paths, driveways, and solar panels as part of our regular exterior cleaning services.

Easy Tips To Keep Your Outdoor Spaces Fresh:

While we take care of the heavy lifting outside, here are a few simple ways you can keep your outdoor spaces looking great and working efficiently throughout the summer.

- Sweep, rinse, repeat – Give patios, decks, and driveways a quick sweep and hose-down to keep them looking fresh for summer gatherings.
- Furniture TLC – Wipe down tables, chairs, and loungers so they're ready for lunch in the sun or evening drinks.

“A late summer garden has a tranquillity found no other time of the year.” -William F. Longgood



Pet Spotlight

Pet Spotlight – Would you like your pet featured in our next newsletter?

Send your best pet pictures and a bit about them to us on WhatsApp: +441865 704 161



- Trim and tidy – Keep plants and shrubs in check so your garden paths stay clear and inviting.
- Shiny solar panels – A quick rinse helps them soak up the sun efficiently (and could save a few quid on energy!).
- Beat the moss – Spot-clean any algae or moss before it spreads and steals the summer shine.
- Protect your cushions – Store outdoor fabrics when not in use to keep them looking bright and fresh.

With outdoor spaces sparkling, safe, and inviting, you're ready to make the best summer memories ahead.

“Gardens are not made by singing ‘Oh how beautiful; and sitting in the shade’ - Rudyard Kipling.



“Lily loves cuddles and treats. Her favourite spot is out on the decking, basking in the sun.”

Alfresco Exterior Cleaning Quiz

How much do you know about keeping your property's exterior looking its best? Test your knowledge with our 10-question quiz!

1. What is the most common cause of green staining on render and exterior walls?
A) Rust, B) Algae, C) Paint fade, D) Dust
2. Which exterior cleaning method uses specialist treatments to tackle the root cause of moss, algae and lichen growth?
A) Steam Cleaning, B) Sandblasting, C) Soft Washing, D) Dry Brushing
3. Why is regular gutter cleaning important?
A) It improves Wi-Fi signal,
B) It prevents water damage and leaks
C) It brightens paintwork
D) It reduces heating bills
4. How can dirty solar panels affect performance?
A) They can become less efficient
B) They generate more electricity
C) They store more power overnight
D) They become waterproof
5. Which one can help extend the life of a roof?
A) Ignoring moss growth
B) Painting over moss
C) Professional roof cleaning and treatment
D) Walking on the roof regularly
6. What is one advantage of Soft Washing compared with traditional pressure washing?
A) It uses more water
B) It only cleans visible dirt
C) It helps surfaces stay cleaner for longer
D) It damages delicate surfaces
7. Which exterior surface can become a slip hazard if left covered in algae and grime?
A) Patio
B) Roof
C) Driveway
D) All of the above
8. What is often the first thing visitors notice about a property?
A) The boiler
B) The loft insulation
C) The exterior appearance
D) The fuse box
9. Which of these services is commonly used to keep windows, frames and sills looking spotless year-round?
A) Roof Treatment, B) Window Cleaning
C) Stone Restoration D) Graffiti Removal
10. What is the biggest benefit of regular exterior cleaning?
A) Improved kerb appeal
B) Protection of surfaces
C) Increased property value
D) All of the above

Score Guide

9–10 Correct:
Exterior Cleaning
Expert!

7–8 Correct:
Property Maintenance
Pro!

5–6 Correct:
You're getting there!

0–4 Correct: Time
to book an exterior
health check with
Alfresco!



How well did you do?

Let us know on WhatsApp: +441865704161 Send your name and postcode along with the number of answers you got right for the chance to win a £25 M&S voucher. Giving you the chance to try out your new summer recipes on us!"

Answers

1. B) Algae
2. C) Soft Washing
3. B) It prevents water damage and leaks
4. A) They can become less efficient
5. C) Professional roof cleaning and treatment
6. C) It helps surfaces stay cleaner for longer
7. D) All of the above
8. C) The exterior appearance
9. B) Window Cleaning
10. D) All of the above

Summer Recipes

Lemon & Blueberry Cheesecake - serves 10-12



Ingredients

For the Base

250g digestive biscuits,
crushed
100g unsalted butter,
melted

For the Cheesecake Filling
600g full-fat cream cheese
300ml double cream

100g icing sugar

Zest of 2 lemons

Juice of 1 lemon

1 tsp vanilla extract

For the Blueberry Topping

250g fresh blueberries

2 tbsp caster sugar

1 tbsp lemon juice

2 tbsp water

Method

Step 1: Make the Base. Mix the crushed biscuits with the melted butter until well combined. Press firmly into the base of a 20cm springform cake tin. Chill in the fridge for 30 minutes.

Step 2: Prepare the Filling. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese until smooth. Add the icing sugar, lemon zest, lemon juice and vanilla extract. Mix until combined. In a separate bowl, whip the double cream until it forms soft peaks. Fold the whipped cream into the cream cheese mixture until smooth and thick.

Step 3: Assemble. Spoon the filling over the chilled biscuit base. Smooth the top with a spatula. Refrigerate for at least 6 hours, preferably overnight.

Step 4: Make the Blueberry Topping. Add the blueberries, sugar, lemon juice and water to a saucepan. Simmer gently for 5–7 minutes until the berries begin to soften and release their juices. Allow to cool completely.

Step 5: Finish and Serve. Spoon the cooled blueberry topping over the cheesecake. Garnish with extra lemon zest and a handful of fresh blueberries. Slice and enjoy!

Top Tip

For an extra burst of flavour, reserve a few fresh blueberries to scatter over the top just before serving. The combination of tangy lemon and sweet blueberries makes this the ultimate summer dessert.

Non-Alcoholic Summer Spritz

Ingredients

- 1/2 ripe passion fruit
- 1/3 lime - juiced
- 1 tbsp sugar syrup
- handful of ice
- 125ml sparkling water

Method

- Step 1 – Tip the passion fruit pulp, lime juice and sugar syrup into a wine glass and gently muddle using a muddler or the end of a rolling pin.
- Step 2 - Add the ice and sparkling water and stir before serving

**Non
Alcoholic**



Events Happening, Summer In Oxfordshire



Giffords Circus & Stonor Events:
Stonor Park hosts Giffords Circus (25 June-6 July),
and August antique car shows.



Truck Festival (23-26 July):
Located at Hill Farm, featuring a large lineup.

Wilderness Festival (Jul 30-2 Aug):
A 4-day event in Cornbury Deer Park with
music, arts, and dining.

The Big Feastival (28-30 Aug):
Food and music festival hosted by Alex James.



Cogges Manor Farm:
Daily summer activities, a giant
obstacle course, and crafts.

OPA Play and Activity Days:
Free, locally based play activities for children,
managed by the Oxfordshire Play Association.



Fairytale Farm & Hogshaw Farm:
Special summer fun events scheduled.

Oxford Festival of the Arts (June/July):
Cultural performances across the city.



Cowley Road Carnival (20th Sept)

Cotswold Farm Park:
Features accessible, calm events like the
flower fields (July-Aug) or farm animal visits



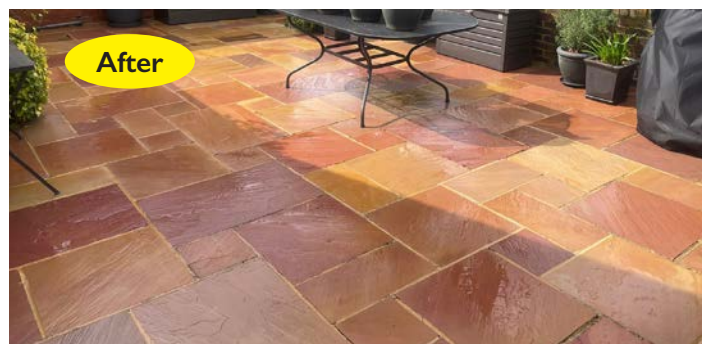
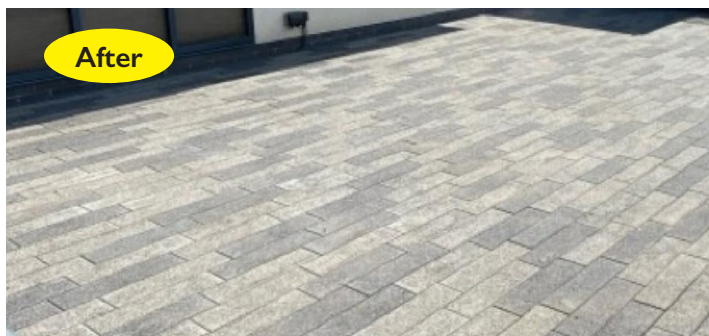
Botanic Garden & Arboretum:
Ideal for leisurely strolls.



Spot The Summer Cleaning Challenge

Can you spot the difference?

Does your outside space look like our before or after pics?



Soak Up the Sun. We'll Handle the Grime

Summer is all about long days, warm evenings, and making the most of your outdoor spaces. With patios, paths, driveways, and solar panels professionally cleaned on a regular schedule and a few simple habits around the garden, your space, no matter how big or small, stays fresh, safe, and inviting all season long.

Relax on the deck, fire up the barbecue, and enjoy every sun-filled moment while we make sure the exterior stays sparkling and summer-ready.

ALFRESCO

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