

The Concrete Truth

Your guide to many years of service from exterior concrete.

New concrete:

Typical questions about new concrete, driveways, sidewalks & garage floors.

Is my new concrete maintenance free?

No your new concrete will need to be sealed every fall for the first 3 years (prior to Oct. 1st) then once every 3-5 years after.

My concrete contractor sealed my concrete at the time of installation does this count?

No. This type of sealing is generally for curing reasons and will dissipate in the first 30 days.

When should I seal my new concrete?

No sooner than 30 days after your new concrete was poured, preferably on a warm dry day, at least 12 hours after the last rainfall and 6 hours before the next expected rainfall.

Can I use salt or deicers on my concrete?

No. Salt and deicers should not be used during the first 2 winters, and all road salt and sand that falls off of cars should be scraped off as soon as possible. The use of plain sand is recommended.

Can I salt my concrete after the first 2 winters?

Yes, but do not use deicers containing ammonium sulfate, ammonium nitrate or any other sulfate salt. No deicing product other than plain sand should be applied until the slab's third winter season. If deicer creates slush on driveway scrape as soon as possible.

Can I park on my new concrete in the first 2 winters?

Yes, but not in the same location for extended periods of time. When you move the car, scrape off what has fallen off of the car.

Do the same rules apply to my garage floors?

Yes. It is equally important to seal and keep your garage floor clear of salt, sand.

What kind of sealer should I use on my concrete?

You should contact your concrete contractor to see what was originally used for curing and/or sealing, as there are many types of sealers and they may not be compatible with one another.

How do I seal my concrete?

Most products have application instructions on the containers, but the use of a paint roller is common. **Clean** your concrete 1st and let it dry for 12 hrs. min. before applying and watch the weather so the sealer can dry for approx. 6 hrs before rainfall or heavy due.

See other side for concrete cleaning & sealing prices

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