

CONCRETE AFTER CARE & MAINTENANCE

Concrete is a relatively durable, low maintenance & long-lasting product. However, proper & routine maintenance, can greatly extend the life & beauty of the concrete. Protecting your concrete investment will bring you years of enjoyment and structural soundness.

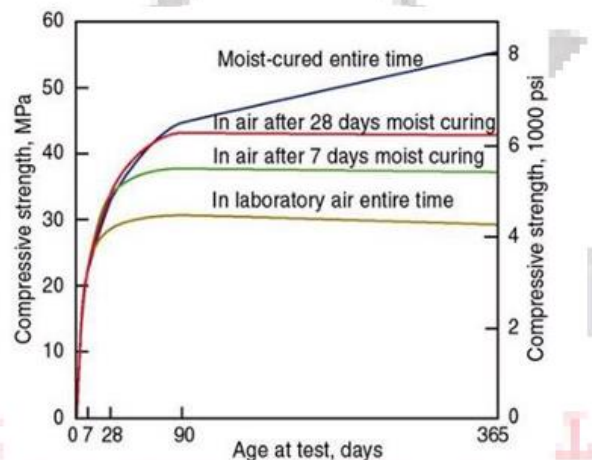
FOOT & VEHICULAR TRAFFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- Allow 24 hours of curing time prior to foot traffic access on newly poured concrete surfaces.
- 7 days should be provided before allowing vehicular traffic to drive over newly poured concrete surfaces. This time frame will differ depending on concrete mix design, thickness, & type of finish.
- For businesses that utilize heavy equipment or machinery, allow the concrete to cure for 28 days before placing/driving equipment on the surface.

NOTE: Concrete will not reach its full compressive strength until 28 days has passed since poured. Keep activity at a minimum, if possible, during this time. Certain mix designs can shorten this time frame to allow businesses to function as regular.

RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE

- **Curing-** Curing new concrete is one of the most important things (especially in the hot summer months) to insure your concrete won't crack. We recommend hosing your new concrete to retain moisture in the slab & delay shrinkage & the drying process, for approximately 7 days after the concrete has been poured.



- **Apply Sealant-** Reseal your concrete when necessary, depending on exposure to heavy traffic, extreme weather, & sunlight intensity. We recommend decorative concrete to be resealed every 1-2 years & standard concrete, every 2-3 years.
 - Tip- If you choose to re-seal your concrete yourself- please feel free to reach out us for best product & application recommendations. Always follow the label instructions since spread rates can differ! If you prefer to have your sealing done professionally, feel free to give us a call & we'd be happy to service this for you.
- **Drainage-** Avoid water drainage below concrete. This will wash-out subbase & result in settlement cracking.



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- **Snow/Ice Removal-** Do not allow snow or ice to accumulate on the surface, especially the first winter. Avoid using sharp objects to remove snow, such as the metal blade of your shovel or of a snow blower. Plastic shovels, kitty litter, or sand can be a great alternative to snow removal & traction.
- **Avoid Chemical Exposure-** Avoid applying chemicals for snow and ice removal. Certain products are available to achieve a “non-slip” finish that are safe for concrete.
 - Chemicals containing ammonium sulfate or ammonium nitrate will aggressively attack concrete.
 - Avoid concrete exposure to chlorine, salt water, stabilizer, fertilizer, de-icing materials, or those of similar nature
- **Avoid Heavy Loads-** Avoid parking vehicles or equipment that exceed the weight of a normal vehicle (4,000 lbs.), unless approved by the concrete contractor. While occasional heavy load driving shouldn't do any damage to your concrete, continuous driving & long-term parking of heavy equipment or vehicles can cause shifting, settling, or heaving.
- **Cleaning-** Frequent sweeping and occasional hosing will keep your concrete looking good! Wet leaves tend to stain on concrete so be prepared for leaf removal in the fall months. If oil, grease, or other stains spill on your concrete, be sure to pressure wash or use degreasing chemicals to spray & clean the area as soon as possible to avoid staining. Oil, dust, & leave stains will not cause any structural damage to your concrete, but they can cause unsightly permanent stains.
- **Control Tree/Plants-** Trees & plants with large root systems planted too close to your concrete can cause shifting, settling, cracking, & crumbling.