



Don't Be Salty

IT'S NOT WORTH THE PRICE YOU WILL PAY!

A GUIDE TO SALT USE & APPLICATION ON NEW CONCRETE PAVEMENTS

Using salt on your new concrete driveway can be detrimental to the appearance and lifespan of your new pavement. Understanding what materials to use to make sure your family and pavement is safe is critical.

The following factors of salt are known to harm concrete:

- Salt significantly lowers the pH in the concrete. This process attacks the concrete paste, increases the pore size, and ultimately allows additional water, chemicals and other substances in to the concrete, thus harming the structure.
- Salt is a hygroscopic substance, which means that it attracts and ultimately retains water. As we know, too much water in concrete leads to damage. When salt is applied to concrete, water is attracted, retained, and creates more pressure in the concrete.
- Salt also quickens the carbonation process. In order for the outcome of the concrete to be correct, the carbonation process must take time and slowly reduce the overall pH.
- Salts introduce chlorides to concrete. In turn, chlorides are the main aggressor in concrete corrosion.



WHAT "SALT" IS SAFE TO USE ON MY CONCRETE DRIVEWAY?



Magnesium chloride is a great choice! While magnesium chloride is more expensive than sodium chloride and calcium chloride, it is less likely to damage your concrete or your lawn. This type of salt only works in temperatures down to 0° F, which is better than sodium chloride but not quite as good as calcium chloride.



WHAT TYPE OF SALT WILL HARM MY CONCRETE?

Rock salt is one of the most damaging substances that will ever contact your concrete driveway. It accelerates the deterioration caused by winter's freeze-thaw cycles and shortens the lifespan of your concrete pavements.

