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or**

OHIO CONCRETE

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Take Care of Your Concrete Surfaces



CAUTION:

*Use of deicers on your new
concrete driveway, sidewalk
or patio could be harmful!*

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You wouldn't use a strong caustic soap to clean your new wall to wall carpet! Nor would you use acid to clean your new kitchen or bathroom fixtures! In fact, you're pretty careful about how you clean and take care of your new home inside. But, what about outside concrete walks, drives, patios, porches and steps? Give the new exposed concrete around your house the same consideration as your pretty new interior! It's quality concrete, but don't abuse it.

New concrete should be at least three (3) months old before de-icing chemicals are used. The only safe material to use to make the concrete surface skid resistant the first winter is plain sand. Promptly remove any deicers tracked onto or inadvertently broadcast on new concrete.

Under usual conditions, deicers that contain sodium chloride (common salt) or calcium chloride may be used after three months age of the concrete. Even then, it is helpful that a recommended surface sealer has been applied in the fall. Check with your builder, contractor or ready mix supplier for recommended quality concrete sealers. These can be rolled or sprayed on and require re-application for continued performance.

Never use deicers containing ammonium sulfate or ammonium nitrate. These products are commercial fertilizers used by farmers and have on occasion been packaged and sold as deicers. They will effectively melt snow and ice, BUT they will also rapidly disintegrate concrete.

REMEMBER

- (1) Avoid the use of any deicers on any concrete less than three (3) months old;**
- (2) Use sand for surface traction if necessary;**
- (3) Never use deicers containing ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulfate; and**
- (4) After three months age, an application of a quality concrete sealer in the fall is recommended to limit deicer and moisture penetration and offer added surface protection.**
- (5) Clear snow and ice from your concrete surfaces as soon as possible**