

### Concrete Driveways

The summer season is the ideal time to consider concrete improvements and repairs, especially to driveways and walks. Here are a few ideas to consider:

#### ■ Concrete Improvement Ideas:

- ✓ A new concrete drive or walk.
- ✓ Removal and replacement of an existing cracked / spawled driveway or walk.
- ✓ Extension or widening of an existing drive or walk.
- ✓ Patio, porch or steps.
  - Decorative concrete options are great to consider, stamped or stenciled can add colors and patterns.

#### ■ Concrete is a great exterior product, however, temperature, weather and cure conditions are critical points to plan for:

- Summertime weather / conditions are generally ideal for placement and curing.
- However concrete must be kept watered /wet if temperatures are excessively hot.
- Compaction underneath a new slab is very important. Compaction can also be impacted by wet and dry weather conditions.

#### ■ Repair of an existing slab that is cracked or spawled is difficult:

- Grinding can be an option but removal and replacement is generally the best option.

#### ■ Exterior concrete should be reinforced:

- Typically fiber reinforced concrete is specified.
- When adding to an existing drive - rebar dowel bars should be drilled to join the new and existing slabs.



#### ■ Control Joints:

- Concrete will always shrink and crack as it cures, proper location for control joints is critical.
  - Control joints can be tooled in during the pour or saw cut the next day.

#### ■ Questions and Bidding:

- Consult with a qualified local construction professional to assist in both planning and bidding.
- Remember the lowest price is not always the best, take time in evaluating your Contractor, relationship and trust are key!

If you have any concerns or questions don't hesitate to contact a local Contractor and Construction Professional for help and guidance. Hope this months tips are helpful, enjoy the summer! *TsT*

# TsT Home Improvement Services LLC

Helping people one job at a time...

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