

YOUR NEW DRIVEWAY

The following are tips on the care and use of your new driveway.

Please understand that due to varied situations, uses, care, etc. that are beyond our control, driveways are not covered by any warranty.

The liquid asphalt in blacktop needs time to harden and cure, usually 6–12 months, so your driveway will remain soft and pliable until then. You can walk on your new driveway, but keep automobile, motorcycle, etc., traffic off it for at least 3 full days, even longer in hotter temperatures.

Blacktop is scarred by automobiles starting out too fast or pulling in too quickly. Also, during the first 6–12 months damage will occur if you park in the same spot every time. It is also especially important to never turn the steering wheel back and forth when your car is not moving.

If you will be using a jack stand or car ramps place a piece of plywood under them to distribute the weight. If you will be storing a camper or trailer for a long period of time, place a piece of plywood under the tongue jack and under each tire.

Motorcycle and bicycle kicks stands, lawn chairs or high heels can create holes and depressions in your driveway, especially during the warm months.

Avoid gasoline, oil, anti-freeze, steering and transmission fluid spills and leaks. These will dilute the liquid asphalt in your blacktop. Any holes left by these spills should be filled with cold patch. Hairline cracks that may have developed over the winter due to contraction and expansion of the ground should be filled with crack filler. Either of these products can be purchased from your local building supply store.

It is advisable to seal the driveway however, sealing too soon will damage your driveway. Some professionals recommend sealing it at 12 months after paving, others suggest waiting 3 years, the time period is up to you. Since black top is naturally porous, water can seep into and through the paving. This causes deterioration, as well as ridges and upheaval due to frost and freezing. Black top is also softened and broken up by gasoline, lube oil, grease, road salts and anti-freeze which drip from cars. Sealer will protect your drive from these elements. Unprotected driveways remain porous, dry out, become rough and lose their life rapidly.