

For additional information,  
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## EXAMPLES OF SCALING CONCRETE SURFACES

USING DEICERS CAN CAUSE THIS:



OR THIS:



OR THIS:



Take Care  
OF YOUR  
CONCRETE SURFACES



USE OF **DEICERS** ON YOUR  
NEW CONCRETE COULD BE  
**HARMFUL.**





One of the first things people see at your home or business is your exterior concrete. You want it to look great and last for decades. You also don't want to compromise safety by risking slips and falls. Using deicers on your concrete sidewalks, driveways, patios, porches, steps, and parking lots may help keep people safe but most commercial brands may actually harm your concrete leading to scaling and deterioration. Here are some pointers to make sure your concrete stays safe AND lasts.

# Deicers

## REMEMBER!

1. AVOID THE USE OF **ANY** DEICERS THE FIRST YEAR. USE PLAIN SAND FOR TRACTION.
2. IF DEICERS NEED TO BE APPLIED (AFTER THE FIRST YEAR) USE ROCK SALT OR SODIUM CHLORIDE SPARINGLY.
3. NEVER USE DEICERS CONTAINING:  
*AMMONIUM SULPHATE*  
*AMMONIUM NITRATE*  
*CALCIUM CHLORIDE*  
*MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE*  
*MAGNESIUM ACETATE*  
*MAGNESIUM NITRATE*
4. PROTECT YOUR CONCRETE WITH A SEALER.



- **Never** use any deicing chemicals the first year. The only safe material to use to make the concrete surface skid resistant is plain sand. Under usual conditions, sodium chloride (common rock salt) may be used sparingly after the first year.
- **Never** use deicers containing magnesium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium acetate, magnesium nitrate, ammonium sulphate or ammonium nitrate. These chemicals are often locally sold as deicers and will lead to premature deterioration of your concrete.

- **Always** keep fertilizers off concrete surfaces. They contain similar chemicals known to cause premature deterioration.
- **Always** remove snow and ice from concrete immediately. Be aware that snow and ice clinging to the underside of vehicles or plowed onto your driveway, from street snow removal efforts, likely contains unwanted deicers.
- **Always** follow American Concrete Institute (ACI) practices for mix, installation, finishing and curing concrete. Improper installation techniques can significantly reduce surface strength and increase the chance of scaling.
- **Always** use a concrete sealer for added protection from deicers. Sealers are a proven, cost-effective way of extending the life of your concrete.

