STRAIGHT ANSWERS

Cracks, Color and White Haze

What is normal in decorative concrete, what is not, and when to call us.

Concrete is a natural material

It shrinks as it cures and moves with the ground under it. We control where it moves with steel, thickness and cut joints. We cannot stop it moving. Knowing what is normal up front saves a lot of worry later.

NORMAL

Cracks

- **Hairline cracks are normal.** Almost every slab gets some. They do not mean the slab is failing.
- **Joints are there on purpose.** They give the concrete a planned place to crack, out of sight.
- **On an overlay,** a crack in the old slab underneath can show through the new surface over time.
- **Do not fill a crack yourself.** Most store-bought fillers show more than the crack did.

ALSO NORMAL

Color

- **Color varies.** Every batch, every trowel pass and every hour of sun shifts the shade a little. That is what makes it read as stone.
- **Acid stain is mottled on purpose.** It reacts with your slab, and no two slabs react the same.
- **It looks darker when wet** and lighter when dry.
- **A dull, pale slab** usually needs sealer, not new color.

WHITE MARKS

Two different things, two different answers

White, chalky powder	That is efflorescence: salts carried to the surface by moisture, mostly in the first months. It is not mold. It usually weathers off. Call us if it bothers you and we will treat it.
White or cloudy patches in the sealer	That is moisture caught under the sealer, often after heavy rain. Do not scrub it or put a cleaner on it. Call us first.
White rings near sprinklers	Mineral deposits from the water. Move the spray off the slab.

WHEN TO CALL

Call us about these

- **A crack you can catch a coin in,** or one side sitting higher than the other.
- **Sealer peeling or flaking** in sheets.
- **Water that still stands** a full day after the rain stops.
- **Anything you are not sure about.** Send a photo. There is no charge for asking.

Thank you for trusting us with your home. We want this to go right and look good for years. If you have a question at any point, call or text us. There is no charge for asking.

CALL OR TEXT
361-420-7726