

Ambient Temperature Limits During Hot Pour Crack and Joint Sealant Application

Hot melt crack and joint sealants adhere to cracks both mechanically and adhesively. When Dura-Fill is applied it mechanically grabs the cracks surfaces as it cools and shrinks. Because it is a hot melt adhesive, it also sticks to the crack interface.

In order for the adhesion to occur, the crack must be clean and dry. The reason crack sealant manufacturers state that the air and ground temperature should be 40F or higher is because we are concerned about frost. If the ground is frozen, it is likely that a hot air lance or the 400F crack sealant will thaw the ground creating a film of water in the crack and adhesion failure.

Air and ground temperatures are not the limiting factor, but rather the moisture, which is associated with a frozen surface.

The contractor should check to be certain that the cracks are clean and dry before applying crack/joint sealants. If the cracks are clean and dry, crack sealing can be successfully performed.

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