

Treatment of Cracks and Gaps

There are several types of cracks and gaps that need to be treated differently.

a) Hairline or spider web cracks:

They are typically less than 1/32" wide and only topical. They do not need to be treated prior to application of sealers.

b) Stress cracks or relief cuts:

They are over 1/32" up to 1/8" wide. Widen cracks to at least 1/8" and make 3/8" deep cross cuts about every foot. Insert brackets into cross cuts and fill with crack filler such as STAUF CCF-40. Spread dried sand over crack filler and remove excess sand after crack filler has dried.

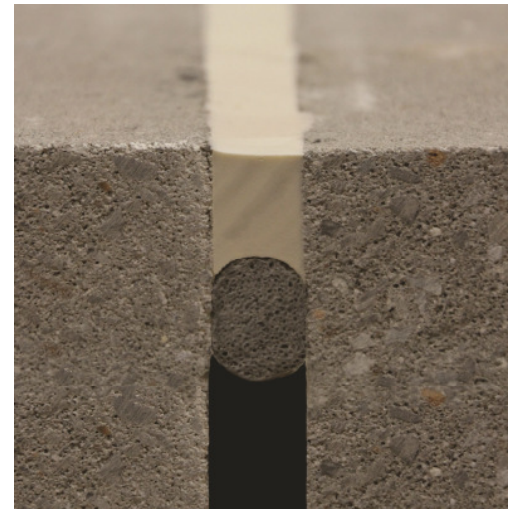


c) Relief cuts or non-moving voids:

They are over 1/8" wide and may go all the way through to the bottom of the slab. A backer rod will need to be inserted into the void to retain the crack filler. Make cross cuts about every foot and insert brackets. Fill all voids with crack filler such as STAUF CCF-40. Spread dried sand over crack filler and remove excess sand after crack filler has dried.

d) Dynamic or moving joints:

They are intentional separations between two sections of concrete that allow for expansion and contraction. They will need to be honored throughout the entire installation. Insert a backer rod into the dynamic joint and leave about 1/2 inch space between the backer rod and the surface of the concrete. Fill this void with permanently flexible and moisture resistant joint filler such as STAUF DJF-60. After joint filler has dried (approx. 1 hour) it can be covered with the same primer, sealer, leveler or adhesive as is used on the rest of the sub floor.



Visit the Stauf web site for more information or call Stauf Technical Services at 901.820.0007.

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