# Driveway Performance & Aftercare Guidance

Driveways are exposed to changing weather, ground conditions and regular vehicle use. This guidance explains Using the driveway within the vehicle loads agreed for its construction.

- Reporting new cracks, loose blocks, rutting or persistent pooling promptly.

Surface-specific care may also be needed, such as replenishing jointing sand on suitable block paving installations. Follow the cleaning guidance provided to avoid damaging the surface or joints.

## If a problem develops

At DNA Driveways, we take appropriate measures during ground preparation and installation to ensure our driveways are constructed to a high standard, using suitable materials, installation methods and supporting foundations appropriate to the chosen surface and agreed vehicle use.

However, even where appropriate construction methods and precautions have been followed, external factors such as prolonged drought, changes in soil moisture, ground movement, tree root activity and extreme weather conditions can affect the performance of a driveway over time.

The appearance of cracks, loose or displaced blocks, settlement or changes in surface levels does not automatically indicate defective workmanship or incorrect installation. Such issues can sometimes arise from natural ground movement or environmental conditions beyond our reasonable control. Equally, they should not automatically be attributed to external factors without assessment.

Should any concerns arise, we encourage customers to contact DNA Driveways so that the circumstances can be assessed and the likely cause established. We will always aim to work constructively with our customers to identify an appropriate solution.

Where an issue is found to result from defective materials or workmanship, we will address it in accordance with our contractual and statutory obligations. Where external factors are identified as the cause, we will discuss the findings and any suitable remedial options, including whether the original design or installation contributed to the issue.

This guidance does not exclude or restrict customers' statutory rights.

## Ground conditions and seasonal movement

Some soils, particularly shrinkable clay, can shrink during prolonged dry weather and swell as moisture returns. Nearby trees, previously disturbed ground and changes in drainage can also influence ground stability.

Movement beneath a driveway can sometimes cause cracking, settlement or changes in surface levels. These effects are possible rather than inevitable, and their cause should be assessed individually.

## Surfacing and construction

Block paving, tarmac and resin-bound surfacing each have different characteristics and installation requirements. All depend on suitable ground preparation, supporting construction, drainage and edge restraints.

The construction should suit the site, chosen surface and intended vehicle use. Please discuss any requirements for heavier vehicles, motorhomes or regular deliveries with us before installation.

## Weather and drainage

Prolonged rainfall, drought, temperature changes and freezing conditions can affect the ground and driveway construction in different ways.

Suitable design and installation help manage these risks. However, changing conditions—including tree growth, altered drainage or later work nearby—may affect an installation over time.

Drainage arrangements vary between surfaces. A permeable driveway relies on a suitable supporting system and appropriate ground or drainage conditions; the surface material alone does not determine how water drains.

## Routine care and use

Every driveway requires some ongoing care. We recommend:

- Removing leaves, dirt, moss and vegetation.
- Keeping drainage channels and outlets clear.
- Cleaning up oil and fuel spills promptly using methods suitable for the surface.
- Following the aftercare advice supplied, including any waiting period before parking.