



Efflorescence

So, what is efflorescence? Well, when you get your new precast concrete pieces, they may have a powdery white appearance on the surface. But don't worry, it is nothing to be concerned about; this chalky residue is normal and caused by water coming up through the concrete, evaporating and bringing dissolved minerals to the surface.

Efflorescence is common with any concrete mix using Portland cement and does not indicate any structural or manufacturing defects with the concrete.

The residue normally wears off with further curing or can be washed off

from unsealed concrete surfaces. Soap and water can be used for cleaning, or a commercial efflorescence remover can be purchased. In addition, commercial concrete sealers can be used to help restore and protect pieces, and can be sprayed or painted onto dry, clean concrete. Please call us at 360.435.6151 if you would like further information.

Hairline Cracking – Sometimes Concrete Cracks!



Diamond Design Precast reinforces all our products with steel reinforcement for certifiable structural integrity. However, even the best concrete installations will sometimes see hairline cracking in finished precast concrete products. It's

important to note that with steel reinforcement, these cracks are seldom a structural concern; in fact, according to the National Precast Concrete Association, "One of the first things you learn about the properties of concrete is it has much greater compressive strength than tensile strength.

Reinforcing with rebar is a great way to add the missing tensile strength to a concrete structure to prevent any structural cracking from occurring, but sometimes shallow cracks can occur near the surface during production. For most products, these cracks do not threaten the immediate structural integrity of the concrete..." At Diamond Design Precast, we stand behind all our products, so if you have cracking that you feel is more than a hairline crack, please give us a call at 360.435.6151 so we can discuss your specific situation and help you resolve any concerns.