Seal and repair concrete and stone around your home before winter

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A tiny crack in your home’s walkway, driveway or masonry wall can eventually grow into a much larger crack. The culprit is rain, snow, ice, and even deicing chemicals. When water penetrates and saturates unprotected concrete, it freezes and thaws and damage occurs.

Fall is a good time to make those minor repairs. No one wants to put a house on the market in the spring having to contend with a driveway full of cracks.

QUIKRETE® Company offers products to repair and seal concrete. It can also be used to build patios, deck supports, block walls, walkways, driveways, and more.

"A common mistake that homeowners make in the repair of their concrete or masonry projects is not properly preparing the area. Clear out the cracks completely," said Frank Owens, vice president of marketing for QUIKRETE. "Blow all of the dust away, and make sure that there is no oil or dirt in the cracks. Then choose a flexible crack sealant. If you get any movement, the crack will always find the way to least resistance."

QUIKRETE® Polyurethane Concrete Crack Sealant in a caulk tube dries to a durable and flexible finish. It can be used to help prevent water and ice damage on both vertical and horizontal applications. Its textured look helps blend in with existing concrete surfaces.

QUIKRETE® Polyurethane Mortar Joint Sealer in a caulk tube waterproofes, seals and tuck-points damaged mortar joints. It is tack-free in two hours and offers non-sag abilities.

The company makes a variety of other products, including acrylic-based formulas. QUIKRETE® offers 26 how-to videos on its website that address projects from weatherproofing to resurfacing concrete.

United Gilsonite Laboratories offers DRYLOCK® Concrete Protector with Saltlok. The low sheen clear coat has a well-worn artisan look that retains the natural look of rough cobblestones, stamped concrete, tumbled pavers, and flagstones. Saltlok technology helps prevent efflorescence, the white powdery residue caused by leaching of natural materials onto the surface of masonry and mortars.