



AmTrust North America
An AmTrust Financial Company

Safety Zone

Sidewalk, Driveway, Walkway & Parking Lot Repair - Is Patchwork Acceptable?

When it comes to repairing sidewalks, driveways, walkways and parking lots, a recommendation may be issued that states “**patchwork is not permissible.**”

Why Patchwork is Not an Acceptable Repair

The term “patchwork” is referring to a temporary or non-permanent fix. For example, when there is a pothole in a driveway or parking lot, a certified contractor is hired to make repairs and applies a suitable, professional and permanent repair; this would be acceptable. However, using materials that will not withstand the test of time and would only repair the pothole temporarily means the recommendation would not be in compliance.



Another example would be sidewalk defects. If a permanent repair can be completed by applying concrete to the area, which is permanent and removes the hazard, this would be acceptable. Additionally, there are instances where the entire sidewalk flag should be removed and a new sidewalk flag be installed to make a permanent repair.

The term “patchwork is not permissible” should not be construed to mean that the entire driveway, parking lot or sidewalk must be totally removed and a new surface be installed. If the surface can be permanently repaired to remove the hazard without replacing the entire surface, the recommendation would be considered to be in compliance.

For additional resources and other safety and risk management subjects, visit the AmTrust Loss Control website: <https://amtrustfinancial.com/loss-control>

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