

# Ambient Temperature Limits for Hot Pour Crack and Joint Sealant Application

## Why 40° F and Above

Hot applied crack and joint sealants adhere to cracks both through mechanics and chemistry. When Dura-Fill is applied, it mechanically grabs the crack's surfaces as the material cools and shrinks. Because it is an adhesive, it also sticks to the crack surfaces.

In order for the adhesion to occur, the crack must be clean and dry. Crack sealant manufacturers recommend that the air and ground temperatures be 40°F or higher because of moisture concerns. If the ground is frozen, a hot air lance or hot crack sealant material will thaw the ground and create a film of water in the crack. Crack sealant cannot adhere to wet surfaces.

Air and ground temperatures are a necessary and reliable gauge for anticipating moisture levels when crack sealing. Users should check to be certain that the cracks are clean and dry before applying crack/joint sealants. This will result in a successful application and will extend the life of the pavement.



7-2021