



TIP SHEET

1. SlabGasket is currently available in 15 sizes; 1/2", 5/8", 3/4" Std., 7/8" Std., 1", 1-1/8", 1-1/4", 1-3/8", 1-5/8", 1-7/8", 2", 1/2" shorty, 3/4" shorty, 7/8" shorty, 1-5/8" shorty and two colors; almond and gray. The shorty sizes were developed for joints where a shorter framing board was used and had concrete poured under and up the boards sides. This method is supposed to control where the slab cracks when it does so. The other sizes were designed to replace true expansion joints made with boards that go all the way through the slab to the soil below.
2. SlabGasket cuts easily with a sharp pocket knife, box cutter, or a pair of hand held garden pruning shears.
3. Preparation:
 - a. First, clean out the expansion joint. You probably have a tool at home to do this. People have used small crow bars, long screwdrivers, wood chisels, etc.
 - b. You will encounter the occasional nail when cleaning out the expansion joint. These were used when the slab was framed to nail the stakes and framing boards together. Be careful when removing these. Wear safety eyewear! It is recommended you use a hacksaw blade or inexpensive diamond masonry blade mounted on your circle saw or angle grinder to cut these nails. Otherwise the nail could be strong enough to break your concrete if you attempt to pry it without cutting it.
 - c. Small chunks of concrete are easily chipped out with a hammer and chisel, or use the diamond masonry blade to smooth these areas before installing SlabGasket. Again, wear protective eyewear!
4. Installation:
 - a. The expansion joint should be backfilled with sand or very fine gravel to build up a base to the point where the bottom of SlabGasket will lay.
 - b. Roll the length of SlabGasket loosely along the expansion joint. Be careful not to drag SlabGasket across the concrete surface, it will get scratched. As you install SlabGasket, push the material into itself to compress as much as possible. Avoid stretching SlabGasket, or it could "rubber band" back on itself later when the slab cools.
 - c. V-notch the bottom of SlabGasket with your pocket knife, box cutter, or pruning shears in order to pass over or around obstacles which prove too difficult to remove.
 - d. Try to avoid in-line splicing. SlabGasket comes in 50 foot coils and sells by the foot. Figure the lengths you need and order accordingly.
 - e. Tightly butt SlabGasket together at intersections, or lock crossing pieces together by cutting a square notch from the top of one piece and the bottom of the other piece. The bottom piece notch should be narrower than the top crossing material for a snug fit.
 - f. Do not cut the end without first checking to be sure SlabGasket didn't pull away from your starting point. SlabGasket can be removed and reinserted at any time.
 - g. If you encounter a point that is really snug, try spraying both sides with a lubricant or soapy water and use a board on edge and hammer to knock in. You may also use the diamond blade to shave off a bit of the concrete's sides to make more room.
5. Cleanup:
 - a. Wait until after the installation is complete to wash or pressure wash your concrete surfaces. There is no need to create a mess before you start.
 - b. SlabGasket requires no curing or waiting. Walk or drive on SlabGasket immediately.