

# 10 Tips Before you Pave

Asphalt paved driveways are extremely popular and the most cost effective solution to install over most other driveway options. Hiring the right asphalt paving contractor however can sometimes be a challenge. If the paving contractor installs the asphalt driveway correctly the driveway should last 25-30 years with only minor maintenance. Review these questions with your perspective contractor.

1. **Is Asphalt the right solution** - Unlike concrete, an asphalt paved driveway is both strong and flexible and is ideal for climates where constant temperature swings occur.
2. **Be Confident** - Any contractor you hire should be licensed, insured and bonded to protect you from any liability as well as to protect you from any sub-par performance on the contractor's behalf.
3. **Schedule accordingly** - Lead times vary, typically 2-4 weeks is reasonable to expect completion of your project.
4. **Know what you want** - In order to obtain accurate quotes from the asphalt driveway paving contractors it is best to have a sketch of the home and the desired driveway footprint. You should also walk the site with the paving contractor and have him or you stake or paint lines where the paved driveway is to lay.
5. **The road is only as good as what you build it on** – Be sure that you ask about having sub-base properly installed underneath your new driveway; a proper foundation is critical!
6. **Does the contractor know their business** - It is also critical that during the installation of all the various layers to the driveway that they are each compacted prior to the installation of the next layer of material. Quoted depths should be after compaction, not before.
7. **Drainage is essential** - When talking to the prospective paving contractors make sure the subject of installing proper slopes and drainage is discussed. Otherwise you may wind up with water pooling on the finished driveway, or even worse, draining into your garage or home.
8. **Don't get ahead of yourself** –Schedule your project appropriately; anything worth doing is worth doing well and when you are about to invest a few thousand dollars of your hard earned money in your driveway, *be sure to ask* - what is the right thing to do?
9. **Ask for referrals** – Don't feel bad about asking a contractor for referrals; quality contractors love to show off happy customers and what they have to say. Do yourself a favor and ASK – See example <http://sacpaving.com/Testimonials.html>
10. **How much down** – In most states it is a law that contractors can only receive so much of a down payment or security deposit; any time you are asked for half or more down you probably have not even talked about most of the above steps – BE CAREFUL.

Also be sure to care for your investment – click here for FREE TIPS [http://sacpaving.com/About\\_Us.html](http://sacpaving.com/About_Us.html)

Placerville Paving  
(916) 373-9262  
3382 Bonaire Rd  
West Sacramento, CA 95691-5904  
[info@sacpaving.com](mailto:info@sacpaving.com) [www.sacpaving.com](http://www.sacpaving.com)  
License #782237