



**HAWAIIAN  
CEMENT**

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## jointing concrete tips from hawaiian cement

### CONTROL (CONTRACTION) JOINTS

- Create weakened sections to control locations.
- Accommodate movements caused by temperature changes and drying shrinkage.
- Prevent vertical, but permit slight horizontal movement.
- Control joints are neater in appearance and easier to keep sealed than uncontrolled cracks, and cause fewer maintenance problems (for heavy forklift traffic, saw cut joints).

### LAY OUT JOINTS TO:

- Divide large floor areas into small rectangular panels, as nearly square as possible.
- Limit rectangular panels so the long side is no more than 1 1/2 times the short side.
- Avoid reentrant (inside) corners and sharp angles (less than 60 degrees).
- Align with changes in the slab, plan dimensions, and joints in adjoining slabs.
- Terminate at the edge of the slab, not at an intersecting joint.

### CONTROL JOINT SPACING

- Should not exceed, in feet, two to three times the slab thickness, in inches (Example: Space joints 8 to 12 feet apart for a 4-inch-thick slab).

### GOOD JOINTING PRACTICE

- Mark joint locations on edge form.
- Use a straightedge as a joint guide.
- Start with a wide groover, and then use a narrower groover on later passes.
- Cut joints a minimum of 1/4 the slab thickness (1 inch deep for a 4-inch slab).

Additional tips and products to help with your project are available online at: [www.hawaiiancement.com](http://www.hawaiiancement.com)