

POTTERY WORLD LUXURY HOME DECOR AND DESIGN

Cement fountains are known for their durability, but they are still prone to cracking and crumbling. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN HARSH CLIMATES THAT EXPERIENCE FREEZING CONDITIONS.

Here are some tips to help execute your water fountain repair project.

CHECK AND FIX LEAKS

A leak in your water fountain can be a problem. If significant enough it wastes water and can cause your pump to run dry burning it out. First try to find the leak. Fill up the fountain and allow the water to sit for at least 24 hours to verify it is leaking. Any cracks will appear on the base as a white spot or noticeably wet area.

Stone and Cement fountain can be repaired with clear silicone—similar to that used to caulk around fixtures in a bathroom or kitchen. A two part masonry epoxy can also be applied to larger cracks. Sometimes it is necessary to widen the crack slightly to create a small valley for the epoxy to adhere. For sealing an entire bowl, Flex Seal can be applied to the entire interior bowl.

REPAIR PIECES THAT BREAK OFF

Use a masonry two part epoxy to fix pieces of your water fountain. Mix it and use it to stick back the broken chips. Make sure to allow time for the epoxy to harden complete.

PATCH CHIPS IN CEMENT FOUNTAINS

If your cement water fountain chips, you can repair it with a mixture of Auto body bondo or filler. Mix it based on the manufacturer's instructions, then trowel it on and let it dry.

Paint it to match the color or texture of your fountain if they don't match.

RENEW OLD WATERPROOF SEALANT ON COPINGS

Some Cement water fountains are treated with waterproofing, which can wear off over time because of cracks. What you can do is simply apply a layer. An underwater elastomeric sealant is recommended.

You can buy one at a hardware store or masonry supply store. Follow the instructions on the packaging, and let it dry. Be sure to patch all cracks first before applying water sealant.

AVOID THESE COMMON MISTAKES ON GARDEN FOUNTAIN REPAIR

- **Not smoothing out the Filler after laying it** – not only will it not look good when it dries, but it may not also completely seal the crack.
- **Not reading the sealant packets or measuring the ingredients of the epoxy or Body filler mixture** – will cost you time and money. You may end up redoing the fix if it does not set well when it dries.

Make sure you measure the ingredients, apply the mixture properly, and allow the patch to dry. Do not hasten to refill the fountain with water. Otherwise, water will keep seeping through the cracks.