

The life of a road

PAVEMENT CONDITION

LAYERS OF A ROAD

TREATMENT AND COST
(per square yard)

Excellent

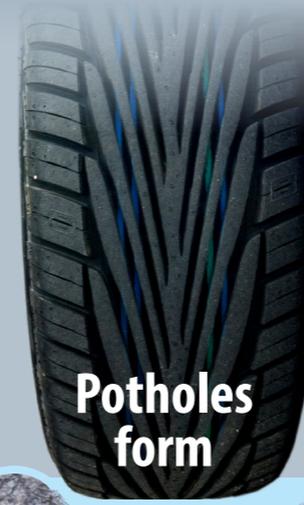
Asphalt is a flexible, semifluid waterproof coating that protects the rock bed below. The bed carries the load of the weight from vehicles.

Good

Sun evaporates and rain washes out oils in the asphalt, making it dry and brittle. Cracks form as pavement expands with heat and contracts in the cold. Water seeps into the cracks, through the rocks and into the soil.

Failing

Pavement becomes thinner and starts to break apart. Water pools in the wheel path ruts. The soil turns to mud and oozes upward, weakening the rock base. Without a strong rock base, the thin, brittle pavement breaks into chunks under the weight of vehicles.



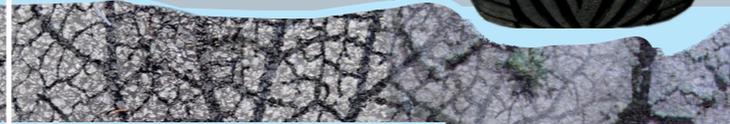
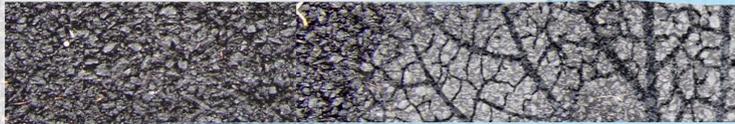
Potholes form

Failed

Potholes worsen and expand. The road bed is ruined.



Asphalt



Rock bed



Soil



Preservation: Ranges from **30 cents** to **\$3**

Crack seal: Cracks are sealed to reduce the amount of water seeping into the rock base.



Slurry seal: A preventive measure, slurry seal is applied on top of existing pavement to stop damage from the sun and rain.



Repair or replacement: Ranges from **\$10** to **\$25**

Chip seal: Chip seal is applied to pavement as a waterproof seal to prevent water from seeping into the rock base. The rock coating provides both a new wearing surface and friction for safety.



Grind & patch: Chunks of busted up pavement in isolated spots such as potholes are ground out and patched.

Rehabilitation: Ranges from **\$40** to **\$120 +**

Overlay: A second layer of asphalt is laid on top of the existing one as a base to carry the weight of vehicles and restore a smooth ride.



Replacement: Both the rock bed and asphalt are removed entirely and replaced.