NEW ORLEANS
CONCRETE LEVELING
SAFE / SMOOTH / LASTING RESULTS

FREE PRINTABLE
PRE-HIRE CHECKLIST

Concrete Leveling Pre-Hire Checklist

For New Orleans–area driveways, sidewalks, patios, pool decks, steps and slab floors. Print it, walk your slabs, and bring it to the estimate.

1. Before anyone visits (15 minutes)

- [ ] Lay a straightedge across each joint and write down the height difference.
- [ ] Tap slab edges for hollow sounds; look for gaps under edges.
- [ ] Note which way water runs after rain — away from the house, or toward it?
- [ ] Mark every downspout that empties onto or beside a slab.
- [ ] Check: did the low side sink, or did a root push the high side up? (Leveling can't lower a heaved slab.)
- [ ] Check inside: stair-step wall cracks, sticking doors or cracks running up walls? If yes, call a structural engineer first.
- [ ] Photograph each problem joint with a ruler in the frame.

Location	Drop (in)	Hollow?	Water toward house?	Downspout?

2. Know the numbers

Item	Typical range
Mudjacking	$4–$9 per sq ft
Polyurethane foam	$8–$25 per sq ft
Contractor minimum	$300–$700
Tear-out and replacement	$6–$15 per sq ft
Full 450 sq ft driveway, mudjacking	$1,800–$4,100

Source: HomeGuide mudjacking cost data, updated Nov 2025. Foam per-job figures are calculated.

3. Questions to ask at the estimate

- [ ] Why did this slab sink? (Expect a specific cause.)
- [ ] Foam or mudjacking — and why for my slab and soil?
- [ ] How big are the holes, and where will they go?
- [ ] Is there a void? How will you price it if it's bigger than expected?
- [ ] Are patching the holes and sealing joints and cracks included?
- [ ] How soon can I walk and drive on it?
- [ ] Does anything here look structural?
- [ ] Can you send a certificate of general liability insurance?
- [ ] For jobs over $7,500: what's your Louisiana registration or license number?
- [ ] For a public sidewalk in New Orleans: will you file the City Sidewalk Repair Permit?
- [ ] What's the warranty, and what voids it?

4. A fair written estimate includes

- [ ] Method and the reason for it
- [ ] Each area to be lifted and how far it dropped
- [ ] Total price and overrun terms
- [ ] Hole patching and joint/crack sealing
- [ ] Drainage fixes recommended
- [ ] Stay-off times

5. Red flags

- [ ] No written estimate
- [ ] "We don't need to look at drainage"
- [ ] Sealing as a surprise extra
- [ ] Pressure to decide on the spot, or a large cash deposit
- [ ] No proof of insurance

Notes