

DIVISION 3: DECORATIVE CONCRETE

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MARBLE-TONE COLOR-ETCH STAINS

Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains are a combination of special metallic salts in a water base acid medium that react with free calcium hydroxide in the cement to produce a permanent variegated color to the concrete. They do not cover up the concrete, but penetrate into the concrete surface producing a translucent marble tone color. The colors will vary depending on the concrete surface and make-up. The color effects produced by Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains remain in the concrete pores and become a permanent part of the concrete and therefore will not chip, crack, fade or peel. Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains can be used for both residential and commercial applications such as basement floors, garage floors, driveways entryways, patios, pool decks, sidewalks, mall entrances and showrooms as well as masonry walls.

Application for Staining Concrete

Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains should be applied to 'new' concrete that has cured for at least 28 days. If the concrete surface is too old, the calcium hydroxide may have been 'washed out' and will not accept the stain very well. Before applying, make sure the surface is structurally sound, clean of any dirt, drywall mud, paint, sealers, oils, etc. Some concrete may be trowel so well that liquids do not soak in quickly. Test this by putting a couple drops of water on the surface and observe how fast it dries. The quicker, the better. If needed, the pores can be opened with a very light solution of HCl and water and a scrubbing.

Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stain can be applied with an all plastic pump-up sprayer, a long haired mop or nylon brush. We do not suggest using paint rollers because you will see the overlapping marks at the end. The application process will change the outcome as much as the surface prep. It is best to try out your technique on small areas of the surface you plan to stain. Special effects can also be achieved with the use of sponges, rags and hand sprayers.

As the stain is applied, very light to heavy fizzing or foaming should occur which indicates the concrete surface is accepting the stain. At no time, should you walk on the stained surface without spikes. (Golf cleats can be used as well.) Do not spread the stain after fizzing stops. When you notice that the majority of the surface has dried, lightly mist the stained areas with water to keep the acid hydrated.

After a several hours another coat can be applied. Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains should always be applied in 2 or more coats. The longer you leave the stain and the more coats you put on, the darker and more varied the outcome. Do not rinse the stain with water before applying the second coat. After the last coat has dried for at least 5 hours, the surface should be rinsed of all residue and salts with an ammonia solution (1 cup ammonia to 1 gallon of water) to neutralize the acid and then completely flushed with clean water. A wet/dry vac. works well to remove excess moisture and residue. Residue is normal. Do not power wash or scrub the surface. The harder you scrub the more color you wash off. After the surface has been cleaned and dried, wait at least 24 hours before applying any sealer.



Technical Information

Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains are available in 8 colors. Consult color samples for examples.

Products such as the greens and blues can react to the presence of moisture after a period of time and create a black spotty effect. When applying these stains insure the substructure is not subject to any hydrostatic pressure and drain water. These stains must be kept from any source of water. Since these stains have a very low pH, avoid contact with skin or eyes. Rubber gloves and splash goggles should always be worn when applying these stains. When used in an unventilated area, a gas mask should be worn.

Coverage: 200 to 400 square feet per gallon

Storage: Keep above 40° F and below 100°, do not allow freezing.

Clean-up

Clean tools and equipment with warm soapy water. Ammonia solutions can be used to neutralize the acid.

Packaging

One and five gallon units (36 to a pallet) and 55-gallon drums

Safety Precautions

Consult Material Safety Data Sheet

Warranties for Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains

Marble-Tone Color-Etch Stains is warranted to be of uniform quality that complies with all manufacturing specifications. There are no implied or expressed warranties over the use of this product since it is out of the control of the manufacturer. The user should determine by his own information or tests as to the suitability of the product as to its intended use and will assume all risk and liability of the product, which proves to be defective

The coverage rate should be between 200 to 400 square feet per gallon per application depending on surface roughness and porosity.

PYRAMID CEMENT DATA SHEET



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