

## **HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW CONCRETE FLOOR**

Now that the project is complete and your floors look great remember that decorative concrete floors (acid stain, stamped, polished & overlays) are considered a low-maintenance NOT a NO maintenance floor. But you do not have to worry.. Just follow this guide and with little maintenance your floors will remain as beautiful as they are right now.

### **Exterior Concrete Floors**

Your exterior sidewalk, patio, and/or pool was sealed with multiple coats of high-solids, UV-inhibiting, penetrating solvent based sealer. The sealer will repel dirt, dust and other substances that can get into concrete surfaces and promote the growth of mold and mildew. Basic care for your new decorative concrete is as follows:

1. If your concrete appears powdery white or splotchy especially after a rain, the sealer is working properly. This appearance is the dirt and/or dust mentioned above. Just rinse the surface with tap water from a garden hose and squeegee or blow the excess water off with a leaf blower.
2. Generally rinsing the surface followed by squeegee or blower will take care of most cleaning issues. High powered pressure washers are not suggested.
3. Plastic glides of Magic Movers should be affixed to heavy furnishings or those which will move frequently.
4. Potted plants should have a dish placed under them to catch excess water especially if you use a lot of fertilizer on the plants.
5. The exterior concrete surface should be resealed every 2-3 yrs. According to the manufacturers recommendations. Resealing is variable depending on amount of rain and sunlight the concrete receives. When you notice water that does not bead up and seems to absorb into the concrete then it is time to reseal.

## Interior Concrete Floors

Your Interior decorative concrete will last a lifetime if properly maintained. Plastic glides, Felt Pads or Magic Movers should be affixed to heavy furniture or those which will move frequently. Use the same precautions you would use for a hard wood floor. A door mat at the outside (anything but rubber based) and inside entrance (one with a solid base that can be shook off outside), this will pick up about 85% of the dirt that would otherwise be tracked inside. Proper care for interior floors are follows:

Dust mopping- Damp mopping removes the fine dust and grit which can grind away floor finish. It will help prevent major floor finish deterioration caused by normal foot traffic. The best results are obtained by using a Micro-Fiber Dust Mop. The following procedures should be followed:

1. Damp mopping with cool water and a neutral ph cleaner extends the floor finish life. It will not dull the finish and will enhance the gloss retention.
2. Follow the recommended dilution rates on label directions.
3. The mop should be wrung out tightly so that it is just damp. Do not allow the cleaning solution to puddle.
4. NEVER use a "Swiffer" type of cleaning tool. The liquid in these devices contain trace amounts of Solvent material. The Solvent will not harm the sealer but will cause the wax to egg-shell. Also, no Amonia, Bleach, or Pine Sol.

**WAXING-** Wax is the sacrificial coating to protect the sealer and bear the brunt of the scuff and scratches. Your floor was installed with 2 -4 coats of wax for the initial protection. We leave the remaining wax with you so you know the type to use- a 20% minimum solids wax. No Mop-nGlo or similar wax should be used.

1. How often you need to re wax depends on the abuse you put on the floor. It varies by owner and may be anywhere from every 3 months to every year.
2. Use a lopped-end Rayon mop- synthetic release material cotton absorbs.
3. Pour about a 3sqft sized puddle on the floor and spread it evenly and thinly. Spread material across the surface and let it dry for 1 hour. You are now ready for foot traffic again.

## Troubleshooting

<i><b>Problem</b></i>	<i><b>Cause</b></i>	<i><b>Solution</b></i>
Floor is streaky	Floor was still dirty or 1.Allow floor to dry and dust mop a dirty mop/water was used	2Clean mop and use new solution mix
Footprints at entrance area	Dirty Walk-off mat(s).	Shake/Clean walk-off mats.
Floor is spotty	Too much solution water remained on floor	Water Solution should'nt puddle.Use a just damp mop so liquid will not stand on floor.
Floor is Sticky	Too much cleaner solution In water	Re-mop floor w/clean water to remove excess cleaner. Use 1oz.of solution to 1gal water.
Floor has a milky white spot	Something wet remained on the floor causing the acrylic In the sealer/wax to discolor.	Wipe up any remaining liquid and allow floor to dry. Once dry, the Milky spot will fade to clear.