



Maintenance of NXT[®] Cementitious Decorative Toppings

TDS 184N

When used as a decorative topping, NXT[®] LEVEL DL can generally be walked on after 1 – 2 hours. However, dry times are dependent on several factors including temperature, humidity, air circulation, and other jobsite conditions. Application of a suitable sealer should take place 24 – 72 hours after the installation of the topping material and absolutely no traffic can be permitted on the completed floor until the guard or topical sealer has dried. Check with the sealer manufacturer for cure times of the topping material prior to application, and time to traffic prior to exposure to foot traffic. Note that most sealers will help protect from staining however spills must be thoroughly cleaned as soon as possible. When spills are left to dwell they will eventually penetrate and cause staining.

It is necessary to protect the finished floor from exposure to other trades, services, construction activity, appliance installation, major furniture placement, vehicular traffic, or any other activity which may damage the decorative topping. The builder should provide up to ¾" thick plywood or OSB protection over non-staining Kraft[®] paper to protect floors after they have cured sufficiently to bear any loads. Covering the floor with polyethylene or plywood in direct contact with the floor may adversely affect the curing process and appearance of the cementitious topping.

The ability to control grit is crucial to prolonging the attractive appearance of an architectural concrete floor. The easiest and most cost effective measure to control grit is by simply utilizing high friction, open surface design walk-off mats to remove the majority of sand and dirt grit from shoes and trap the particles. These mats should be cleaned or changed frequently to ensure their best performance. Ideally, mats should be used at every entrance and should be as wide as the doorway and approximately 5 – 6' (1,500 – 1,800 mm) long. Walk-off mats designed for exterior use are the most desired.

Furniture and/or other heavy items (especially with small contact points) must be placed on plastic, rubber or felt contact points. All of these soft contact points should be tested to assure that they do not leave marks on the new wear surface.

General Maintenance of Cementitious Decorative Toppings

1. Dust, mop or sweep the surface. (Dust mopping is most effective).
2. Clean the floor using a cotton mop and a neutral pH cleaner (e.g. STONETECH[®] Tile & Stone Cleaner) according to label instructions.
3. If a high gloss is desired, spray buff or high-speed spray buff using a suitable wax (e.g. STONETECH High Gloss Finishing Sealer) with a white or burnishing pad on a rotary buffer. If less gloss is desired, use an aqua pad.
4. If a matte finish, coat with a suitable low gloss or matte finish sealer as directed by sealer manufacturer.
5. Floors must be kept clear of standing water or contaminants which could cause slip/fall accidents.

Long-Term / re-Coating / re-polishing Maintenance

The frequency of required long term maintenance will depend upon traffic volume, general maintenance practices, types of traffic, and traffic patterns. If the decorative topping is utilized in a heavy traffic area (e.g. mall, airport, etc...) then a once a month maintenance program may be required for re-finishing. If the installation is in a medium use facility (e.g. restaurant, retail store, office building lobby, etc...) then a 3 - 4 month maintenance program may be what is needed to re-coat the floor. If installed in a low usage area (e.g. residential, office, etc...) then a 6 month program may be all that is required for re-waxing or re-sealing.

1. Dust, mop or sweep surface.
2. Deep scrub the floor using a strong solution of a neutral pH cleaner (e.g. STONETECH® Tile & Stone Cleaner) according to the label instructions. Allow to dry per finish coating manufacturer's instructions.
3. Apply 1 – 2 coats of the floor finish wax, sealer or coating by following manufacturer's instructions. Make the wax, sealer or coating has dried sufficiently between coats. After finish coating has cured for the required amount of time, burnish with a white pad if high gloss is desired, or use an aqua pad if low gloss is desired.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at www.laticrete.com
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