



## Proper Care and Maintenance of Your Restored Concrete Surfaces

Your decorative concrete surface has been sealed. It is stain RESISTANT....not stain PROOF. Stains can become set over time if you do not clean spills of foreign matter as soon as possible.

### Cleaning:

We recommend first using water to clean. If you feel a cleaning agent is ABSOLUTELY necessary a mild soap is acceptable- We recommend Dawn dish soap followed by rinsing with clean water. Never use abrasive or ammonia-based cleaners like Pine-Sol or bleach. Although we don't recommend using a pressure washer, you can, but use it only on the gentle setting and never over 1200psi. Also never use it with a rotating turbo tip.

Tree sap and like residues can be spot cleaned using Goo-Gone or Dissolves-It on an absorbent cloth. Carburetor cleaner can also work well to spot clean road tar and black tire marks. Always flush with clean water after you spot clean with one of these cleaners. Never use MEK, acetone, Xylene, Xylo, Paint Thinner, or any type of solvent based chemical to remove foreign matter. When using a product if you notice it becoming "gummy" stop use immediately.

Mineral and lime deposits, as well as efflorescence, may be cleaned using a solution of vinegar and water always using as little vinegar as possible to get the job done. Start with 1 part vinegar to 10 parts water increasing if needed never to exceed more than 50/50. Scrub with a push broom or brush, allow it to soak for approximately 15 minutes, then rinse thoroughly with clean water. Note: these methods will work only if the mineral, lime, or efflorescence has not actually eaten into the sealer. Hard water deposits have the potential to discolor decorative surfaces and sealers, therefore direct sprinklers and gutters away to avoid excessive wetting and ensure land is graded to promote run off of water away from these surfaces.

ALWAYS PERFORM A TEST SPOT IN AN INCONSPICUOUS AREA BEFORE USING ANYTHING BESIDES MILD DISH SOAP AND WATER ON THE SURFACE.

### Care:

DO NOT use rubber backed mats on the concrete. Rubber does not allow for moisture to evaporate naturally and with prolonged use will result in a build up of hard mineral deposits around and under the mat. These deposits will be very difficult, if not impossible, to remove without damaging the sealer and the concrete.

DO NOT place potted plants directly on the finished surface. Plant fertilizers will damage the seal coat. Water mineralization can leave white marks. Use a plant dolly or a plant stand with legs to allow for ventilation and a plastic drip tray to catch any overwatering. Failure to do so will result in mineral deposits that can permanently discolor the surface and or fertilizer etching and staining of the surface.

DO NOT USE DEICING COMPOUND AKA ICE-MELT, SALT/ SNOWBLOWERS OR TIRE STUDS. The most common ways people damage their concrete are using ice melt and tire studs. ICE-MELT/SALTS and like products heat up ice rapidly causing the surface temperature to increase quickly, but beneath the surface is the slab of concrete which is still cold. Heating the top is akin to throwing boiling water on your windshield on a 20 degree morning. It shatters and breaks the surface. STUDS on your tires will also mar the surface and break the seal. Our warranty does not cover damage from either of these. We recommend a little sand for traction instead of ice melt and all weather tires instead of studs. DO NOT use METAL SHOVELS or SNOWBLOWERS to remove snow as they can damage the surface. (If you must snowblow be sure to raise the blades to not touch the surface) We recommend an inexpensive plastic edged snow shovel for shoveling.

At some point in time it will become necessary for your surface to be resealed. Longevity and performance will depend on the end use of the surface, environmental conditions it is subjected to (moisture, freeze-thaw cycling, UV rays), wear patterns, and other contributing factors. We recommend resealing every 2 to 4 years or when the surface is no longer waterproof (darkens when water is poured on it)

We thank you and appreciate your business! Duane and Kelly Emry  
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