

July 2025

Application

The following information assumes the knowledge and skill to prepare, place and finish plain concrete.

1. Following placement and shaping of the slab, the stencil pattern is unrolled with the curl down. This is important as the stencil will want to roll up out of the slab if placed with curl up. The stencil is then cut slightly over size and then trimmed to suit.

NOTE: The stencil must be held above the slab and lowered into position from the middle out.

2. Unroll and place the next section of stencil taking care to align the pattern with neat overlap. Ensure the stencil is placed flat to prevent colour hardener penetrating under.

The best method is with a 460mm painters texture roller attached to your bullfloat handle. Only apply enough pressure to place the stencil flat on top of the concrete. Do not force it down into the slab.

NOTE: Always run the stencil the same way across the slab.

3. Apply the selected colour hardener by casting it evenly across the surface. Using a trowel, fresno or bullfloat to work the colour. Recoat as required until you achieve an even colour. (No grey showing). If the concrete has excessive bleed water it is best to delay working the colour as the grey will continue to rise up requiring you to use more colour hardener.

To enhance your project additional 'splash' colours may be added. The random 'splashes' when applied with some thought provides a natural look to the area.

4. The concrete should be finished with desired texture. eg broom, float, sponge, etc.

5. Once the concrete has sufficiently hardened the stencil can be removed. Care must be taken as incorrect timing will cause chipping or feathering of the edges. If the stencil has been forced deeply then this effect will be exaggerated. The timing will vary in each scenario of conditions. If not sure it is best to delay pulling the stencil. (Do not leave overnight though.) The best method we have found is to lift one corner and to blow the stencil out with a mechanical garden blower. The stencil will readily roll out if the timing is right.

NOTE: Avoid dragging stencil across the surface

6. Once the surface has sufficiently hardened (often the same afternoon) the crumbs can be removed again with the blower or with a soft broom. If colour has found its way under the stencil it should be scraped out with a hacksaw blade or screw driver.

7. If you have a spray applicator, a light coat of Same Day/First Coat sealer can then be applied. This has two benefits, it reduces efflorescence (whiteness) and protects the surface from dirt. If not sealing the same day it is recommended that a light acid wash (20:1) and rinse be performed a minimum of 48 hours after pour and the slab be allowed to dry for a minimum 24 hours before sealer application.

C.I.A Stencils

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Additional Notes:

Remember to start small, build your skill and confidence and don't be afraid to experiment. We would recommend a minimum of 3 experienced concretors do no more than 40m² first time. Avoid days with high wind and use Curecon AA and Curecon W or similar on high evaporation days.

We trust this information is useful and will ensure your success in this growing industry.

If you are not sure, ask. After the event we may not be able to help you.

Disclaimer

The statements made herein are based on our experience gained to date. They are to be considered as information without obligation. Please test and establish for yourself our product's suitability for your particular purposes. No liability exceeding the value of our product can be derived from the foregoing statements. This also applies to the technical advisory service, which is rendered free of charge and without obligation.