



## INTERIOR CONCRETE SURFACES

### 1. Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Can surfaces be restored without removing the existing surfaces?**

Acid/Chemical Staining, Epoxy Flooring, Concrete Grind & Seal, Flake Flooring and Microtopping are ideal both for creating new flooring, and restoring existing surfaces. While they are all individually unique, the application for these products is very similar. One special feature of our products is the ability to be used over old wooden, ceramic/tiled and concrete floors, or existing walls, without any need for the existing product to be removed. Each project would need to be assessed.

#### **Can it be applied on top of tiles or wooden parquet floors or walls?**

After carefully assessing the base, and with proper preparation, our products can be installed on any type of surface. Your Flash Concrete installer will know how to advise you on the feasibility or otherwise of the operation, and help you to choose the most suitable solution for your requirements.

#### **Can I restore the floor or wall without taking out the existing doors and windows?**

At only 1-4 mm of thickness, our products ensure that you can have a new-look floor or wall without having to remove or modify the doors and windows already in the dwelling (unless the doors and windows are not perfectly aligned with the floor), although we recommend that doors are removed and then reinstalled, for a better installation and finish.

#### **Can these products be applied in a variety of finishes?**

Flash Concrete's systems offer new life to the look of old concrete and are designed to be a very flat, smooth, easy to clean and maintain finish, with a periodic maintenance of resealing. The finish can be colour-stained, or even stenciled, creating a unique finish of its own. The smooth finish performs well for interior or exterior commercial and residential applications. These products are applied using artisan techniques, giving rise to slight unevenness and variegation, which is an inherent part of the process. Each surface finish is therefore unique, and the differences in colour concentration, shading or trowelling patterns which contribute to the individual appearance of each floor, are not to be considered imperfections. It depends on which product you choose, each one has its own unique style and finish. Ask to see some of our samples.

#### **Can these surfaces be scratched?**

All surfaces, even the most resistant, can be scratched. Think of steel (the bodywork of cars) that is easily scratched when subjected to stress with sharp objects. Like any other finish, these surfaces may mark or

scratch if subjected to concentrated loads or sharp objects (chairs, furniture, high heels, etc.). Our installed surfaces are highly resistant, comparable to a high quality wood flooring and should be treated with the equivalent level of care. As with a wooden floor, our concrete surface should be installed when all other building or decoration work has been completed. This is to avoid the risk of falling objects and scratches due to work still in progress. Only final coatings and fixings should be carried out after the floor has been completed, with due care being taken in any event to protect the new surface with dust sheets or other suitable material. Particular attention must be paid to use of chairs with hard plastic wheels (office chairs). Ideally, rubber wheels should be used, or protective mats.

**Can I apply this in the bathroom, for example in a shower cubicle or bath or washbasin?**

Certainly. Our products are suitable for these types of application because they provide good protection against water penetration. In the restoration or refurbishment of existing surfaces, an appropriate assessment is required by the installer as well as adequate preparation of the base (tanking/waterproofing layer).

**Are these products safe for health?**

Yes. Strict tests demonstrate that, after the application and drying phases, these products do not release substances into the air that are harmful for adults and children.



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### 2. Care & Maintenance Fact Sheet

**Our product range has extraordinary resistance and flexibility, and it is easy to maintain and clean.**

Product performance is very high quality:

- extraordinary adhesion properties to any kind of substrate;
- excellent protection from UV rays and climatic stress;
- low environmental impact;
- high heat conductivity, these products do not interfere with the thermal properties of a concrete slab;
- safe even on underfloor heating systems because, if warmed up, they don't release any substance, and therefore maintain a good air quality.

#### **Tips and suggestions to keep your new floor (or other surface) clean and beautiful:**

The cleaning of these products is very simple. It is sufficient to use a damp cloth or mop, with the addition of a small amount of neutral, non-foam floor detergent. Environmentally safe products are usually the best choice for our surfaces, just make sure that there are no harsh chemicals in it before committing to use.

Do not use detergents containing acid, ammonia or chlorine, or any abrasive cleaning product. It is recommended to use only **NON-AGGRESSIVE** or **NON-ABRASIVE** pH neutral cleaning products.

To maintain the excellent condition and appearance of the floor over time, some useful precautions can be taken: a) a door mat at the entrances to a house will limit the intrusion of dust, sand and abrasive particles; b) regular sweeping or vacuuming; c) the use of protective felt under furniture, especially items which are regularly moved such as chairs, to avoid scratches or streaks; d) the use of wool or other cloth protection under heavy furniture before moving; e) use of floor covering protection (cardboard, blankets or nylon sheets) before carrying out decoration or repair works or other works likely to damage the floor. On high traffic areas, a sacrificial wax coating can be used (product needs to be approved by Flash Concrete) – see attached link for information on how to apply it: <https://www.concretenetwork.com/concrete/interiorfloors/wax.html>

Although the sealer provides protection against the immediate absorption of liquid, it is nevertheless advisable to wipe away any accidental spillages such as wine, oil, vinegar, or coffee, as soon as possible to avoid the risk of long term penetration. We also recommend that resealing the surface every 5 years (depending on what sealant you choose, and natural wear and tear) will also help keep the appearance of the surface looking fabulous, and will extend the life of the sealer by far.

Useful care & maintenance internet link:<https://concreteresurfacingolutions-wordpress-com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/concreteresurfacingolutions.wordpress.com/2017/06/07/care-and-maintenance-of-epoxy-flooring-systems-and-coatings-2/amp/>

Please note: This fact sheet must be read in conjunction with Flash Concrete's Warranty and Terms and Conditions.