

SOLVENT BASED SYSTEM

INTRODUCTION

Solvent based dyes or instant gratification dyes are a popular way to stain concrete with lightening quick results. The dye is mixed with a solvent, sprayed onto the surface and can be sealed over just minutes later. They don't produce a residue that needs to be cleaned and the dry time takes just seconds. These dyes produce a mottled palette and come in a wide variety of colors. Dyes can be applied to both new and old concrete, they are UV stable and can be applied both indoors and outdoors. They will not hide cracks or damages, but they will likely give it some unique characteristics which is why it is used!

There are three basic components to properly staining a concrete floor:

1. Floor Prep
2. Staining
3. Sealing

FLOOR PREP

Preparing the concrete surface is the most important step in the project. Paints, coatings, glues and other contaminates that are left on the surface will show after the dye is applied.

Prep can be done by mechanically grinding the floor with a planetary concrete grinder from a rental store. If you are in the Kansas City area we do provide these tools for rent. This would be the preferred method if you have a large floor with a lot of contaminates.

FLOOR PREP CONTINUED

The other way to prep a concrete floor is by using ConcreteFloorSupply.com specialty cleaners depending on the floor conditions

1. Hot Strip = to remove black glue and paints
2. Glu Gone= to remove yellow carpet glue and other mastics
3. Super Blue= to open the concrete (safe alternative to muriatic acid) This should be considered mandatory if you're not using diamond tools to prep. **Cut with water min. 1:9 (1-gallon Super Blue to 9-gallons of water); this is a must when you're using Super Blue which is a safe alternative to muriatic acid.**
4. Citra Peel= to remove cures and acrylic sealers
5. Citra Pro= cleaner/degreaser to use on its own or after the above cleaners

IT IS SUGGESTED TO USE THE CLEANERS WITH A LOW SPEED FLOOR BUFFER AND A BLACK CLEANING PAD. YOUR GOAL IS TO CLEAN ALL CONTAMINATES OFF THE FLOOR AND TO GIVE THE FLOOR A "CHALKBOARD" (MATTE) APPEARANCE AFTER IT IS PREPPED AND DRIED.

Clean the floor with the above chosen cleaners and allow the surface to dry. Remember prep work generally requires some trial and error when there are previous coatings, sealers, glues, etc. Feel free to reach out to us about this.

Tape and mask off any areas you want to protect from stain overspray.

STAINING

Solvent based dyes can be applied in many ways. The important thing to remember is to apply it in the same manner throughout the entire surface.

I.E. DON'T START BY SPRAYING IT ON THE FLOOR AND SPREADING IT WITH A BROOM TO SPRAYING IT ON THE FLOOR TO SPREADING IT WITH A MOP. YOU WILL GET DIFFERENT LOOKS WHEN YOU CHANGE APPLICATION METHODS 'MID-STREAM'

Make sure you test that the patten is going to be what you want before you start spraying stain on your floor. Spray into a bucket or test spray in a closet or inconspicuous area before doing your entire floor.

STAINING CONTINUED

STEP 1

Spray the dye onto the floor in a manner that covers 100% of the concrete. Keep the same spray movements throughout the entire job.

STEP 2

Allow the dye to dry and put on another coat if desired.

STEP 3

After the dye has dried completely, it can be sealed.

SEALING

Seal with two coats of Concrete Floor Supply acrylic sealers.

1. Aqua Klear Coat – waterbased sealer that is great for use on indoor projects.
2. Klear Coat – solvent based sealer which is great for outdoor use because of the smell.

PROTECTION

After the sealer has dried for 48 hours we recommend the application of Ez-Glo floor polish. This will protect the sealer and the color.

1. This step is optional but highly recommended because you can reapply Ez-Glo if a scratch appears in it, saving you money from having to peel off the sealer and resealing the entire floor.
2. One gallon typically covers over 1,000 square feet and offers great scuff protection for pennies a square foot!