



1. The concrete is poured to a minimum thickness of 100mm. A paper stencil is then laid on top of the concrete.



2. Colour Hardener is then applied to the surface of the concrete and trowelled in.



3. After the concrete has been left to dry sufficiently, the paper stencil is removed to reveal the required pattern.



4. Finally, a sealer is applied to protect the surface from staining and to give you an attractive and durable finish.

## AUSTRALIAN SLATE CRETE SEALERS – HOW TO SEAL

### FIRST TIME SEALING CONCRETE

#### SURFACE PREPARATION

It is very important to clean new concrete before applying an A.S.C. sealer. The best method is to high pressure water blast (>1500 Psi) to remove concrete salts (efflorescence) and dust, dirt and contaminants. On smooth concrete and hardened surfaces it is also necessary to acid etch the surface to improve surface porosity (absorption). A mixture of up to 1 litre of Hydrochloric Acid to 10 litres of clean water is broomed over concrete to etch the surface. Thoroughly flush the surface with 1 part A.S.C. Concrete Degreaser to 80 parts water to neutralise the acid solution, then rinse well with water. Surface **MUST** be completely dry before sealing.

**APPLICATION** – New or unsealed concrete

#### First Coat

- Dilute the first coat by 15-25% using an A.S.C. Solvent to assist penetration into the concrete. Stir thoroughly.
- NOTE:** During the warmer months, where the surface temperature is hotter, additional solvent may need to be added to the sealer to assist penetration.
- Apply first coat **evenly** by broom or roller at a rate of approx. 4-7m<sup>2</sup> per litre. On very porous concrete diluting of the first coat may not be required.

#### Second Coat

- Ensure the first coat has dried before resealing.
- Allow a minimum of 1 hour between coats in hot weather and considerably longer in cold weather. For best results allow 24 hours between coats.
- Apply second coat neat or slightly diluted using A.S.C. Solvent (approx. 5%), by broom or roller ensuring the application is as even as possible. In hot weather more solvent may need to be added.
- It is recommended that the addition of one pack of A.S.C. Slip Resistant Powder per 20 litres of sealer (stir well), will reduce slipping and improve pedestrian safety. The Slip Resistant Powder will slightly thicken the sealer. Dilute with A.S.C. Solvent to suite. The sealing of very steep and smooth concrete is **NOT** recommended.

#### Difficult Areas

For old concrete surfaces that have never been sealed, but have been contaminated with oil, the following steps are required before sealer can be applied.

- Dilute 1 litre of A.S.C. Degreaser to 10 litres of water and apply to concrete floor and scrub floor with a broom to soften any oil and dirt.
- Pressure clean concrete floor with water blaster (>1500Psi), to wash away residue.
- If concrete floors are clean then follow steps “New or Unsealed Concrete”
- For hard to remove oil or grease in concrete (for eg. Garage floors) apply generous amounts of A.S.C. Solvent to the area, and by scrubbing well, this will soften most oil and grease. Immediately apply A.S.C. Concrete Degreaser (full strength) onto affected area, scrub in then use high water pressure blaster to remove oil residue. If clean then follow steps for “New or Unsealed Concrete”

#### WHEN AND WHEN NOT TO SEAL

Do not apply Sealer early morning or late in the day, as a risk of damage caused by moisture, condensation and dampness increases. A.S.C. sealer affected by moisture can lose gloss and adhesion properties and may turn milky in appearance. In hot weather the first coat of sealer may be applied the day after it is poured. However during winter, the concrete surface can remain damp longer, therefore we recommend early afternoon sealing to ensure maximum dryness.

**NOTE:** If salting (Efflorescence) occurs, do not seal. Wash area thoroughly with water. Allow to dry, then seal if no salt appears. If salt reappears then repeat the process.

**BEWARE:** Chalking or dusty concrete surfaces should not be sealed. If sealed you risk the sealer peeling. Further information contact Australian Slate-Crete Supplies.

**MAINTENANCE:** To keep your concrete surface looking its best we recommend that every 5-6 months you scrub the surface with A.S.C Concrete Degreaser (see label for dilution with water) and water pressure blaster if you have one.

**NOTE:** You cannot keep recoating the surface indefinitely with sealer. After 5-6 coatings the sealer may need to be stripped with the new sealer process to start all over again.

### RESEALING CONCRETE

#### SURFACE PREPARATION

Prior to resealing it is important to thoroughly clean existing concrete to remove oil, grease, dirt and contaminants. This can be achieved by using an A.S.C. Concrete Degreaser in conjunction with a high pressure water blaster (>1500Psi) and acid if required. Then allow to dry thoroughly.

#### APPLICATION

- Apply A.S.C Solvent to the sealed surface in approx. 1 metre x 1 metre square.
- Before working solvent into the surface apply solvent to the next section.
- Whilst the solvent is softening the second area, go back to the first, and with a broom, start scrubbing the surface. Whilst scrubbing, the sealer will soften and become tacky. Broom enough solvent onto the sealer to ensure that you have softened all layers of the sealer, back to the bare concrete surface.
- The next section is ready to be worked on, but before you do, again apply solvent.
- Repeat this process until all the sealer has been worked on. When surface becomes tough dry you can then apply a coat of sealer. This process is recommended to ensure maximum adhesion.

**NOTE:** Before resealing old existing sealer, which has good adhesion, the compatibility of the two coatings should be tested in an area.

For very old sealer with problem or delaminating surfaces, (which may appear milky in colour) the surface should be thoroughly scrubbed with A.S.C. Solvent at least 24 hours prior to resealing. (See above)

**NOTE:** It is recommended before sealing that a small area be tested using this method and left to weather for at least 4-6 weeks. If the test area fails, that is if it discolours and again appears milky in appearance, then the sealer will have to be removed. You will then need to apply a Sealer Stripper to remove the problem sealer. Once all sealer has been removed then follow the procedures for “New or Unsealed Concrete”. (See over page).

If there are no sealer problems then follow procedures for “Resealing Concrete” (See above).

#### APPLICATION

Sealer can be applied by a soft bristle broom, roller or sprayer. If use sprayer we recommend brooming immediately after spraying for evenness and to assist penetration.

#### CURING TIME

Curing time is dependant on temperature. At 25 Degrees Celsius an A.S.C. Sealer will touch dry in approx. 20 minutes. Allow a minimum of 1 hour between coats in hot weather and considerably longer in cooler weather. The colder the weather the longer you wait to reseat. For the best results allow 24 hours between coats. Full curing time will be achieved within 7 days at ambient temperature. Avoid parking vehicles for several days in cold weather and 3-4 days in very hot weather. **DO NOT** park vehicles, with hot tyres, on freshly sealed concrete for at least 7 days.

#### TYRE MARKS

To remove black tyre marks from the sealer surface, apply a generous amount of A.S.C. Solvent to the tyre marks. Broom or brush the affected area until the sealer becomes tacky. With a cloth, lightly wipe the tyre mark from the sealer. Apply more A.S.C. Solvent to the surrounding area to even out the softened sealer. Reseal same area if necessary.

#### SAFETY DIRECTIONS

Please ensure adequate ventilation and avoid breathing vapours. Do not use Australian Slate-Crete Supplies Concrete and Paver sealer whilst smoking or near naked light or flame. Remove all non-canned foods from the area if adequate ventilation is not possible during application or drying.

#### AVOID CONTACT WITH SKIN OR EYES

Should irritation occur please seek Medical advice.