

519

SURFACE

Countertop
ROCK TOP CT Application
Manual

www.surface519.com

888.544.4419

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED



519 Primer



ROCK TOP CT—Gloss or Matte



Rock Boost (Optional)



519 Honing Compound (Optional)



519 Rock Enhancer—Used as additional primer in sinks, showers and out door applications (Optional)



Acetone



Power Drill w/ Mixer



CAP spray HVLP Turbine 3 or 4 stage model



Plastic Cups



Foam Blocks or Plastic Pyramids



Fine Cone Filters



Protective Rubber Gloves



Stir Sticks



3/16" Knap Roller (Recommended)



General Cleaning Rags



Terry Cloth Towels

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED



3M Respirator



Safety Glasses



3M Self-Generating 5" Vacuum Sander (Optional)



3M Non-Vac 5" (Optional)



3M Hookit II 5" Backer Pad (Optional)



3M Conversion Hookit II to Hookit (Optional)



3M 100 Micron 5" Sanding Disc (Optional)



3M 60 Micron 5" Sanding Disc (Optional)



3M A5 Trizact 5" Sanding Disc (Optional)



3M A10 Trizact 5" Sanding Disc (Optional)



3M A35 Trizact 5" Sanding Disc (Optional)



3M Polishing Compound (Optional)

Successful Sealing

Start with a basic concept of doing your own testing. This is very crucial to your business and more importantly, to your reputation. Regardless of what sealer you use, or how the manufacturer or distributor tells you the product will perform, do **your own** testing. Doing so will give you confidence in knowing how the product **you** sell will succeed or fail because, let's be honest, every sealer has its strengths and weaknesses. It's important for you to know how each sealer performs – and in different scenarios. For example, if a sealer manufacturer states a product will perform XYZ, does that mean that everyone who uses the sealer will get that exact result everytime, in every situation? Absolutely not, and this is why.

Take 20 applicators – 10 using a roller and 10 using a spray system. Let's assume the rollers, substrate, spray equipment, and sealer is all the same. However, the results will differ due to the human element. Quite simply, some will roll heavier than others, some will spray at different distances than others, some will adjust the air and material loads, and some will use straight sealer while others dilute. So, the bottom line is that not only will each of these applications look different cosmetically, but they will also perform differently; which is why everyone should do their own testing using the application style that works for you.

ROCK TOP CT is a great product and overall is performing extremely well in a variety of applications across the world. The biggest benefit of ROCK TOP CT is that it is a single component, eliminating induction times, waste, etc. Another benefit is the ability to dilute the product at varying ratios. This capability can be applied for many reasons including laying the product down and wipe on coats for products that don't need a high level of protection, but rather need a little color enhancement. The list goes on.

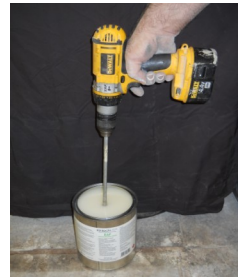
We receive calls daily from guys in the industry who are all doing things differently – different application methods, different diluting, and different spray equipment. This is great! This is how we, as an industry, explore and push the limits of what a product is capable of – within our budgetary constraints, of course. You can never assume, because of all the variables, that because one person sprays with a 50/50 dilution with great success that you too will have success. So, **DO YOUR OWN TESTING** – on sample pieces not live jobs. Figure out what method works best for you, or do whatever tweaking necessary to achieve your desired results. We've all heard the analogy, "slow down to speed up". This applies here. The sealing process is the last step, and generally the most common problem. So, don't rush this step or skip anything that is going to jeopardize the product's performance.

We're all out here trying to make a living and we're constantly competing with turn-around times. There are always new products that claim to advance our productivity and allow us to complete jobs in a shorter timeframe, for example new mixes that allow us to pop out of the mold in as little as four hours or the next day. This is great and we fully support the direction the industry is heading, however the reality of the sealing process is that it CANNOT be rushed, especially when it is the step in the process which seems to struggle the most. It's not often we hear of forming issues, melamine issues, cracking, colors, etc. It's pretty much all about sealing. So again, slow down. Don't push the last, most critical step of the entire process. And remember, you can't turn a gallon of sealer into five gallons in order to save money and expect great results.

Consider the cost of using a high-performance sealer verses an inexpensive one that we know will fail. A 50 square foot kitchen using a high-performance sealer will cost about \$1.20/sq. ft. (or \$60 total), an inexpensive sealer may run about \$.50/sq. ft. (or \$25 total). The savings is \$35. Isn't the additional cost worth the expenditure if it eliminates call backs, which could eat away at your bottom line and compromise your reputation? No one wants a sealer that requires ongoing maintenance, so consider this concept as the paradigm of your business.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Let your concrete dry out at least 5-7 days after casting and at least 2-3 days **after** de-molding.
- 2) Be sure to place slab up on blocks allowing air to circulate around piece freely. Placing the slab directly on melamine or table top traps moisture especially when wet grinding or acid staining.
- 3) Wet grinding
 - A. Grind/polish surface to 200 grit which insures great adhesion
 - B. Polishing over 200 is unnecessary
 - C. Recycled glass mixes can stop at 200 as well. Glass will appear a bit hazy at 200 after polishing, however when ROCK TOP CT is applied it will pull all the clarity and depth of the glass.Dry sanding – Sand up to 200 grit. Note: if using none diamond pads change pads every 1 to 2 sq.ft.
- 4) Wipe off surface with straight acetone. Use 50:50 mix of acetone and water if a lot of sanding dust or shop dust has accumulated on surface. Note: Wipe with straight acetone directly after the 50:50 wipe
- 5) Wet down floor with hose – this helps with getting dust out of the air.
- 6) Mixing ROCK TOP CT / Preparation
 - A. Mixing ROCK TOP CT
 - i. Always use power drill to mix ROCK TOP CT - at as high a speed as possible
 - ii. This will not only mix the properties of ROCK TOP CT, but will also blend matting agent that often falls to the bottom of the can.
 - iii. When pouring ROCK TOP CT from can into quart cup or spray can, always strain ROCK TOP CT with automotive paint cone filters. Stack 4-5 together to insure no debris or crumbs to get in ROCK TOP CT when spraying or rolling.
 - B. Diluting ROCK TOP CT—**Applying without dilution is recommended**
 - i. ROCK TOP CT can be diluted 10-25% with 519 TBA. Mix with ROCK TOP CT and stir for one minute. Note: Break down ROCK TOP CT into small units if buying gallons, this will eliminate moisture from being pulled in the larger containers. Another advantage in using TBA is that it can be diluted and stored without a pot life
 - ii. Other dilution can be done as well – 50:50, 70:30, and so on. **DO YOUR OWN TESTING**
 - iii. Testing is always recommended
- 7) Immediately before spraying or rolling
 - A. Do a straight acetone wipe
 - B. Blow off slabs using air from a compressor or turbine unit. Using your hand, lightly rub the slab with a back-and-forth motion with the air right behind your hand. This will eliminate any dust or rag particles. Note: Be sure all moisture is out air lines



- 8) Apply 519 Primer—will reduce pin holes and improve adhesion
- A. Rolling or a wipe on is the recommended choice
 - i. Use a 3/16" knapp roller or a roller that works for you
 - II. Pour 519 primer directly on the slab generously. Quickly spread/roll material out with an even coat
 - JJ. This will flash dry (takes about 1 minute) then re-apply second coat
 - KK. Let dry for 10 minutes and immediately apply ROCK TOP CT

9) Spraying / Rolling

A. Spraying

- i. Make sure the tip you use is 1.7 or higher
 - ii. Turbine HVLP sprayer is recommended as the air is not compressed and moisture "in the line" is never an issue
 - iii. Spray all edges back to back wet
 - iv. Spray top using a consistent pattern leaving an even coat. Recoat a 2nd coat immediately after 1st.
- Basically you apply two coats wet on wet

B. Rolling

- i. 3/16" knap roller is recommended but use whatever works for you
- ii. Using Duct Tape, wrap the roller and pull the duct tape off
- iii. Pour ROCK TOP CT directly on slab generously. Quickly spread/roll material out with an even coat, back roll once and walk away.



10) After Next Coat (if necessary)

- A. After ROCK TOP CT has cured for at least 24 hours, sand surface using 220 grit to level surface or remove any dust or particles that may have gotten into the sealer while drying.

11) Repeat steps 7 and 8A or 8B

12) Curing

- A. ROCK TOP CT will reach a "full" cure in 7 days
- B. Installation or additional finishing can happen between 24-72 hours during the curing process. Proceed with caution and manage all expectations of a 7-day "full" cure.

13) Post Curing Finishes

- A. 519 Honing compound can be used to remove dust or other particles that were sealed in during application

USING PERFORMANCE BOOST WITH ROCK TOP CT

Performance Boost adds the following benefits:

1. Sanding between coats is not necessary.
2. Adds resistance to straight white vinegar
3. Recoat within the first hour (generally spray) or recoat after 12 hours vs. 24 hours
4. Quicker dry to touch time
5. Same "full" cure time

- 1) Mix ROCK TOP CT and Boost 1:1
- 2) Dilution with Zylene or acetone can be used but is not necessary
- 3) If you dilute with Zylene or acetone, do not go over 5-10%
- 4) Do not clean with acetone during the 7 day cure time as it will turn sealer a hazy white
- 5) Clean with denatured alcohol
- 6) Re-coat 12 hours after 1st coat if necessary, or within the first hour

FIXING PIN/BUG HOLES IN ROCK TOP CT

- 1) The use of 519 Primer will greatly reduce the number of pinholes if used before application of ROCK TOP CT
- 2) Mix slurry or paste of the same color of concrete
- 2) Using a grout (tile) trowel, apply slurry or paste into holes leaving very little to sand off
- 3) Make sure to apply slurry or paste before sanding sealer
- 4) Sand off excess slurry or paste and level ROCK TOP CT
- 5) Repeat as needed

Post Application / Maintenance Instructions:

Be careful of the fresh sealer for 5-7 days after final application. This includes but is not limited to:

- No standing liquids including water
- Do not leave soap dishes, dispensers or appliances on the surface
- Clean up spills as they occur
- No contact with Distilled white vinegar
- Clean with soap and water/ no abrasive cleaners or acidic cleaners
- Be careful with scratching do not slide objects across the surface

After the initial cure, the sealer will continue to get more scratch and stain resistant for up to 30 days, however "normal" use can commence after the initial cure.

- Clean with Non-abrasive/ non-acidic cleaners (519 Sterile Rock anti-microbial) or any off-the-shelf cleaner
- Clean up vinegar spills as they occur
- Do not slide rough, heavy or sharp objects across the surface. Although very scratch resistant, the finish is not scratch proof.
- Although not required, wax or 519 Polished Stone Sealer or 519 wipe-on protectant can be applied.

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