



## **Residential III: 3 Layer Epoxy Coating Kit**

### **Mixing and Application Instructions**

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS FULLY BEFORE STARTING YOUR PROJECT

#### **PREP:**

Prep is the most important part of the project. Poorly prepared floors will cause failures and void the Epoxy Central warranty.

Epoxy Central carries a complete line of floor repair items to repair corroded, cracked and damaged areas, and also carries crack fillers for filling of hairline and larger sized cracks. Contact us for our easy-to-read Surface Prep Bulletin which reviews the various methods and products needed (if any) for proper floor repairs prior to coating. Many 'home center' types of floor repair items contain silicones or are low grade and not compatible with epoxy coatings and are subject to failure or peeling.

#### **NEW OR UNPAINTED/UNSEALED CONCRETE:**

Note: Newly poured concrete must 'cure' first. Moisture in the floor may cause coating failure. New concrete normally has to cure generally at least 30 days. Test any concrete to be coated by taping a 4' x 4' sheet of clear plastic on the floor with duct tape. If moisture under the plastic sheet or floor dampness/darkening appears the next day, then do not coat yet. Older concrete with moisture issues can also create problems. If you have a continuing moisture problem then we recommend doing an inexpensive moisture test (we sell these test kits) and using either a standard primer or a moisture barrier primer. Call or email for details and technical advice.

**The floor must be properly prepared to accept the coating by one of several methods:**

1. **Sweep and/or power wash** the floor to remove any dirt, dust and debris.
2. **Sanding**
  - Sand the floor with a rotary type sander (similar to a buffer). This roughens up the floor. Vacuum well to remove any dust.
3. **Acid Etching**
  - Make sure to wear proper protective gloves, goggles and clothing as acid can be irritating to skin and eyes). Use the included Etching Solution etching solution by diluting the acid 4 parts water to 1 part muriatic in a large empty 5 gal pail. Power wash area first to remove any dirt and dust. While still wet, apply to floor with a stiff bristle broom or mop. Let stand 45 minutes or until it stops foaming (normal). Rinse well to neutralize the acid/water mixture. Let Dry for at least 24 hours or when visually dry, whichever is longer.
4. **Surface Grinding:** You can rent a diamond head floor grinder or 'shot blaster'



at local tool rental stores. These methods work well for removal of old paint and sealers and ‘open up’ the surface very well for adhesion. Make sure to vacuum very well to remove any remaining dust.

### **SEALED CONCRETE**

Often when concrete is poured the contractors either add in or apply a clear sealer. This can create adhesion problems with a floor that is going to be painted or coated. To test to see if your floor has been sealed, dribble a few drops of water on it. If it does not ‘bead up’ and ‘soaks in’, then most likely it’s not sealed. If it does bead up then you need to re-etch at a higher acid concentration or grind the floor per above, and then test with water droplets again. If it still beads up then repeat as necessary. *Failure to do this could result in significant floor failures.*

### **PAINTED CONCRETE**

Painted concrete ideally should be stripped prior to painting, and then etched per above once stripped. Our Systems CAN ONLY ADHERE TO WHAT IS UNDER IT, SO IF YOU EXISTING COATING IS COMING UP, THEN SO CAN THE EPOXY! Epoxy Central carries an excellent cement floor stripper that dissolves the paint and allows for easy, safe removal. See our website under the ‘Strip and Clean’ link of the ‘Buy Now’ portion of our website store.

If you are unable or unwilling to strip your floor, at the minimum it must be power washed, lightly sanded or acid etched per above. Let dry once etched and neutralized and then apply the coating.

Please note that floors that have some, but not all, of the paint removed, and have some paint remaining now have different ‘porosity’ areas since the painted areas will absorb less epoxy than the areas where the existing paint has worn off or been removed. This can lead to ‘blotchiness’ in surface appearance unless you apply 2 coats of epoxy or prime first with our one of our primers .

## **APPLICATION**

The labels for the Residential III: 3 Layer Epoxy Coating Kit are color-coded.

First Layer: The Second layer of epoxy will have **DARK BLUE** or **ORANGE** labels. **Never mix different colored labels with each other!! 2:1 Mix Ratio**

Second Layer: The Second layer of epoxy will have **DARK BLUE** or **ORANGE** labels. **Never mix different colored labels with each other!! 2:1 Mix Ratio**

Topcoat: The topcoat (sealer) has **Red** labels. **2:1 Mix Ratio**

- **Unless you are using the Residential I: Standard Topcoat.**

1. Make sure to keep each layer to the side or in a separate area to avoid mistakenly mixing epoxy and topcoat, as if this occurs, it will never harden and have to be removed by stripping.



2. Use included mechanical mixer to assure proper and thorough mixing. **MAKE SURE TO MIX COMPLETELY MOVING THE MIXER ALONG THE SIDES AND BOTTOM, AS ANY UNMIXED MATERIAL MAY NOT HARDEN. MIX FOR 2-3 MINUTES AT SLOW/MEDIUM SPEED. DO NOT ENTRAIN AIR BUBBLES.**

3. Do not leave in sunlight or allow containers to get warm or hot as this can shorten the working time when mixed.

4. Once mixed it applies like a standard thick paint and no special skills are required for application.

5. Do not mix more than you can apply in a 30-45 minute time frame as once mixed, this system will harden and cannot be stored under any circumstances. Better to mix it up in smaller batches and apply.

a. **NOTE:** you can mix as much or as little epoxy as you want, just make sure to hold the proper mix ratio. Make sure to apply with a medium nap, not a lint roller. It can also be brushed and sprayed. Unmixed epoxy can be stored in its original containers and placed in a cool storage area for future use/touch ups.

7. After you have applied the primer coat you will repeat this process for the second coat. Please go through steps 1-6 again. Please ensure that the primer is dry and hardened before applying the second (base coat) layer. If the epoxy is still wet or tacky please wait until the floor has fully cured.

8. After you have applied the second coat of epoxy you will begin to use the decorative flecks. Please make sure your flecks are easily accessible and not “clumped” together. Simply ‘throw them gently up in the air, not downward’ onto the wet epoxy. Throwing downward can lead to ‘clumping’ of the flecks. Use supplied spiked shoes to facilitate even application appearance.

8. Allow the floor to dry overnight before top coating.

9. The topcoat has a 2:1 mix ratio. Once again you can mix as much or as little topcoat as you need, just hold the 2:1 mix ratio. Topcoat goes on a bit thinner than the epoxy and hence you will get more coverage per square foot.

i. **Note: If you are using the Pro Residential Standard Topcoat (Milky White) this is a 1 part topcoat. Simply stir, add non skid additive (if applicable) and pour to apply.**

ii. Note: If you are going to use the Ultrawear non skid additive or the



Armorgrip non skid additive, it gets mixed into the topcoat at this point before applying to the floor. Mix parts A & B and Ultrawear (rate of 1/2 can per gallon ) / Armorgrip (rate of 1 pack per gallon). Use a mechanical mixer hooked up to a drill to assure an even mix and proper suspension of the non skid additive. MAKE SURE TO CONTINUALLY MIX ULTRAWEAR/ARMORGRIP IN THE BUCKET WHILE APPLYING SINCE IT IS 'HEAVY' AND CAN SINK OUT OF SUSPENSION AND LEAD TO AN UNEVEN FINISH IF YOU DON'T CONTINUALLY MIX.

10. Pour small amounts of mixed topcoat into pan and apply with roller or brush.
11. Allow to dry overnight for light foot traffic. Heavy vehicle traffic and usage should be avoided for 5-7 days or until fully cured. Temperature and humidity also affect curing.
12. Cleanup with xylene (xylol).

***DISCLAIMER:***

***FLOOR TESTING: No two floors are alike and variations in surface texture, porosity, and concrete type can all affect the final results. Epoxy Central Products are designed to be used as recommended but results may vary based on field conditions, and may require particular products or additional coats or products to achieve desired results. For this reason, liquid samples are available at nominal cost for advance testing to assure that your purchase yields a satisfactory result based on your expectations.***

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