

Instructions for Builders or Homeowners in new Construction

Acid Staining is actually a painless process if certain rules are followed. These tips below are to be used as best practice on any concrete slab you are considering have us Acid Stain. These are taken from our years of experience in what can go wrong.

1. Mix Design:

At a minimum you need your concrete contractor to pour a 5 sack mix. Six sack mixes will produce an even richer color. Absolutely no chloride additives in the pour. Calcium chloride will wreak havoc on the stain reaction causing blotchiness. There are other accelerators out there that can be used. We can refer your concrete contractor to many.

2. Sealers/ Curing blankets:

No sealers should be used on the slab prior to our arrival. These will obviously block the stain from penetrating. Curing blankets are ok as long as it is not plastic. Plastic will leave “ghosting” marks on the slab that stain will not hide.

3. Trades:

Framers nails left on the slab to rust will show through. Framers must also use either blue or white chalk. Red chalk will stain the slab. Framers must only use a lead pencil to mark on the slab. **ONLY PENCIL**. Any holes from moved wall plates will need to be patched and will stain a different color. Try to minimize them.

Painters seem to be the messiest trades. Ensure they cover the floor. It is imperative that they not tape anything directly to the concrete. Acids in the tape will mar the concrete if left there over 12 hours (especially Duck(t) tape. If any paint is spilled on the concrete before we arrive then there is a large chance of us not being able to get it out of the pours and therefore it **WILL** show through. ***Paint and other contaminate removal is priced by the job per occurrence and is not included in our initial quote.***

4. Scheduling:

We have found that the sooner a builder or homeowner contacts us the better. We prefer to stain the home slabs after sheetrock and before mud. This minimizes the risk of messy trades spilling contaminates on the slab and ruining the project.

As long as these simple guidelines are followed then there is no risk at all. Again this is a painless process for the builder and homeowner. If there are any questions it is best to just ask us in advance.