

## Overlay Stamp Mix

### Step 1

Clean the surface by with Concreation 700 Cleaner to remove oil, grease, dirt or any other contaminants and etch the surface to provide a sufficient bond. Next, pressure wash the surface at close range using a 3000 psi pressure washer to clean and rinse. It is recommended that a neutral wash of Concreation 750 Cleaner be used following the wash with Concreation 700 Cleaner to balance the pH. See instructions for Concreation 700 Cleaner and Concreation 750 Cleaner for more detailed directions. Shot blasting is another popular method for preparing the surface, especially for indoor jobs.

### Step 2

After cleaning the surface; fix any cracks in need of repair using the Concreation Patching & Crack Repair System. Refer to Concreation Patching & Crack Repair System for more detailed information on the steps required for different applications. Crack repairs are not guaranteed but always recommended before resurfacing.

### Step 3

The Concreation Bond Coat & Broom Finish can be used to fill in low spots, level an uneven surface or re-pitch areas with improper drainage. This usually is done in the first application of Concreation Bond Coat & Broom Finish. If the areas in question are severely damaged refer to the Concreation Patching & Crack Repair System for more detailed instructions. Refer to the instructions for Concreation Bond Coat & Broom Finish for more detailed instructions.

### Step 4

To mix the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix start by adding 0.5 gal. of water to a five gallon pail. Slowly add the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix to the water in while continuously mixing with a paddle mixing drill. Allow the mix to slag for 5 minutes. If the mix is too dry more water can be added, do not add water if Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix begins to set, this will affect its ability to bond and will effect the final colour.

### Step 5

While one person is spreading the Concreation Bond Coat & Broom Finish, another person should have a bucket of Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix, ready to immediately dump over the wet Concre-

ation Bond Coat & Broom Finish. Dump the bucket in a couple of piles next to the starting edge. Using the gauge rake quickly spread the Overlay Stamp Mix 3/8" thick over the wet Concreation Bond Coat & Broom Finish. The person using the gauge rake should wear spiked shoes to be able to walk in the wet bond coat and stamping mix while spreading. By spreading the material at 3/8" thick, it will end up approximately 1/4" of an inch thick by the time it is troweled smooth and stamped. When working next to edges, keep the end of the gauge rake 1" away from the edge and allow the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix to flow out of the end of the gauge rake to cover the edge. This will prevent the end of the gauge rake from slipping off the edge and leaving the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix too thin. It is important to have at least 1/4" of thickness over the whole surface and not to leave any thin spots or they will dry before the rest of the material is ready to stamp.

## **Step 6**

Just like with regular concrete Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix is finished in stages. Using the Fresno to fill in the lines from the gauge rake and to get the surface as smooth as possible is the first stage. After using the Fresno the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix will remain wet and too soft to stamp for 30 minutes up to 2 hours or more depending on the temperature. The hotter the temperature the faster the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix will set up. It is important to keep checking the material by touching it with your finger, in several different places around the edges, at least every 15 minutes to monitor how fast it is drying. As soon as the surface of the material begins to dull out and feels slightly firm but still soft, it is ready to begin the second stage of finishing.

## **Step 7**

While waiting for the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix to set up enough to be troweled smooth, one or two people can be touching up edges and easy to reach areas using a hand trowel and a water spray bottle. It will be necessary to spray a light fog coat of water over the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix before troweling it to achieve a smooth finish. Use as little water as possible to achieve the finish desired. For hard to reach areas it is okay to walk in the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix with the spike shoes as long as you trowel out the holes left by the spiked shoes as you go, before the material gets too firm. The hand trowel or a margin trowel can also be used to scrape clean any drips that run down the sides of the original concrete before the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix dries too hard.

## **Step 8**

An edging trowel can be used to round the outside edges of the area being stamped to leave a nice finished looking edge. It is also used to feather outside edges to 1/8" thick where the stamping mix ends in a walkway to avoid a trip hazard. Edges that are next to landscaping or not a trip hazard can be left 1/4" thick. Trim the sides of all exposed edges with a margin trowel.

## Step 9

Before using the funny trowel it is necessary to lightly wet the surface of the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix with water so the funny trowel can glide over the surface without sticking. Use a Chapin sprayer to lightly wet a section of the surface with a thin even coat of water, no puddles. If you have to walk on the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix use the spiked shoes. The spiked shoes will leave small holes that are easily filled in with the funny trowel as you back your way out of each section. Finish one section smooth with the funny trowel before wetting the next section. Use the funny trowel like a hand trowel with a handle on it and work it from side to side to cover as much area as possible. Trowel the Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix slower and less aggressively than you would regular concrete and work each section as little as possible after spraying the water, to achieve a smooth finish. Once the water gets worked into the surface it becomes more difficult to achieve a smooth finish. If necessary spray another light coat of water where needed. If you are using the funny trowel properly you should not have to trowel each pass more than two or three times. If you have never used a funny trowel you may have difficulty achieving a smooth finish on your first attempt. If necessary you can use the fresno again and some water to achieve a smoother finish than the first stage of finishing. For a steel trowel or spin float finish the concrete must be as flat as possible. It is not necessary to achieve a perfectly smooth finish to have a nice looking stamp job, as long as you begin stamping at an early stage before the stamping material gets too hard.

## Step 10

Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix can be used with either Concreation Liquid Release or Concreation Powder Release depending on application. Use the method you are most familiar and comfortable with. Refer to the instructions for Concreation Liquid Release or Concreation Powder Release for more detailed directions.

## Step 11

The concrete can now be stamped the same as standard concrete. Refer to Stamping Concrete for detailed application instructions.

## Step 12

The next day after stamping, check for anymore touch-ups that need to be done. To touch-up grout lines that are now hardened, use a margin trowel or a small grinder. You can also use a copper pipe approximately 3/4" x 5' in length to quickly clean out grout lines. Use a hammer to smash the ends of the pipe to the width of the grout lines you are touching up, then you can walk around scraping out excess material between the grout lines. To touch-up minor surface blemishes or small shrinkage cracks use 80-100 grit sandpaper.

### **Step 13**

All outdoor moving expansion joints should be saw cut back open so they can be free to move again. For indoor jobs where a seamless floor is desired it is not necessary to re-cut the joints as long as they were crack repaired properly. It is still possible to get a fine crack over indoor joints not cut back open but it is rare. For outdoor jobs start by snapping lines over the center of all the moving expansion joints that were filled with the Concreation Patching & Crack Repair System and covered up with Concreation Overlay Stamp Mix. Do not use red chalk when snapping lines since it can be hard to remove. Use blue chalk or antique powder instead.

Cut through the surface using a skilsaw and a diamond blade or a saw cutting machine. The joints must be free to move again without any materials touching in between or you may experience cracking or delaminating next to the joints later on. When using a skilsaw an aluminum straight edge can be used to keep the saw cut lines straight. Set a heavy bag or bucket on one or both ends of the straight edge to keep it from moving as you make your cuts.

After all the saw-cuts have been made the next step is to clean the surface to remove all the dust from the saw-cutting and to remove any loose antique powder that did not adhere to the surface during the release and antiquing process.

### **Step 14**

The best method to clean the surface on outdoor jobs is to pressure wash in which case no detergent will be needed. For small jobs or indoor jobs where a water hose will be used to rinse the surface, it will be necessary to first scrub the surface with a mild detergent such as Concreation 750 Cleaner. Use a soft-medium bristled broom to lightly scrub over the stamped surface then immediately rinse the surface clean and wet/dry vacuum before the detergent has a chance to dry.

### **Step 15**

Once the surface is dry and ready to be sealed. A protective seal coat of Concreation Acrylic Concrete Sealer should be used. Refer to Concreation Acrylic Concrete Sealer for detailed application instructions.