

PI.029 - QUICK NOTES: Eliminate Sticking When Thin Stamping

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The following guide is designed to assist the experienced installer with the application of thin stamped overlays by providing important tips to eliminating the sticking of material to the stamps during installation.

Proper application of thin stamped overlay is as follows:

1. Prepare the surface. See "Exterior Substrate Preparation" for details.
2. Apply one coat of THIN-FINISH™ and allow to completely dry.
3. Saturate the surface with water.
4. Remove all puddles and begin to apply THIN-FINISH™.
5. Immediately apply TEXTURE-PAVE™ to the wet THIN-FINISH™. Do not apply too much THIN-FINISH™ to get ahead of the application of TEXTURE-PAVE™. You do not want the THIN-FINISH™ to start to dry before applying the TEXTURE-PAVE™ on top of it.
6. Spread the TEXTURE-PAVE™ with a gauge rake set at ¼" depth.
7. Immediately use a "Magic Trowel" to lightly remove the gauge rake lines. This does not need to create a perfect surface. Your objective is to simply fill in the lines.
8. Wait 15 to 45 minutes average (although some climates and temperatures may require you to wait longer) and spray the area you will begin stamping in a 6' x 6' area with CLEAN-PRINT™. Do not spray the entire surface, only apply CLEAN-PRINT™ to an area that will be stamped within the next 2 to 3 minutes.
9. Spray the stamp tool with CLEAN-PRINT™ and begin stamping.

That explanation was simply an overview that will allow you to ensure your application procedure was correct. Now continue by asking yourself the following questions.

1. Was the first coat of THIN-FINISH™ completely dry everywhere before you continued?
2. Was the concrete that has the first coat of dried THIN-FINISH™ completely saturated before the next coat of THIN-FINISH™ and TEXTURE-PAVE™ was applied? You do not want to apply the THIN-FINISH™ to puddled water but the concrete should be hosed down multiple times to saturate the concrete. This process is critical because you want the TEXTURE-PAVE™ to dry from the top down, not from the bottom up. This saturation also cools the concrete and makes it all the same temperature.
3. Did the second coat of THIN-FINISH™ (the bond coat) dry at all before the application of TEXTURE-PAVE™?
4. Don't wait more than 15 minutes to begin stamping. Although some may teach or recommend that waiting longer is better, stamping wetter will decrease the chance of sticking. You will get more sticking if you wait too long. Worry not, you will only sink ¼" deep.

To elaborate more...

1. Make sure the first coat of THIN-FINISH™ is totally dry. This is not to say you need to wait until the next day. Test this by applying masking tape to the surface. If the tape sticks good, the surface is dry. If it doesn't stick, you need to wait.
2. Saturate the first coat of dried THIN-FINISH™ multiple times before proceeding. Once is never enough.
3. Remove puddled water with a broom.
4. Apply the second coat of THIN-FINISH™ and immediately apply TEXTURE-PAVE™.
5. Apply CLEAN-PRINT™ liberally to the area to be stamped and the stamp skin. Do not spray CLEAN-PRINT™ to the entire area. Only to the immediate area you are about to stamp.
6. Make sure that you are using COLD water, not water from a hose that has been sitting in the sun getting hot. Hot water accelerates the drying.
7. DO NOT USE stamps that have been used with powdered release or on full depth stamped concrete.
8. You can clean an old stamp with WD-40 but make sure you clean all of the residue off before storing with soap and hot water.
9. Apply a coat of Armour All for storage protection.

Finally, if you are having any difficulty with this process, please phone your local Technical Support office.