

Technical Bulletin

Screeding Methods for Concrete Terrazzo



The Concrete Floor Contractors Association of Ontario was founded in 1971 to represent the concrete finishing industry.

Technical Bulletins are designed to provide state of the art information to owners, specifiers and contractors to both improve quality and reduce problems.

We hope that this information will assist you in this goal.

If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to contact us at 905-582-9825 or by e-mail at info@concretefloors.ca

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Background

The use of manual vibrating screeds has become more common in concrete floor construction offering improvements in ergonomics in particular. These screeds incorporate a small vibrator which assists in the consolidation of the concrete during screeding.

Concern:

If the vibrating screed is held in one place too long, then the coarse aggregates will settle below the surface (being replaced with cement paste).

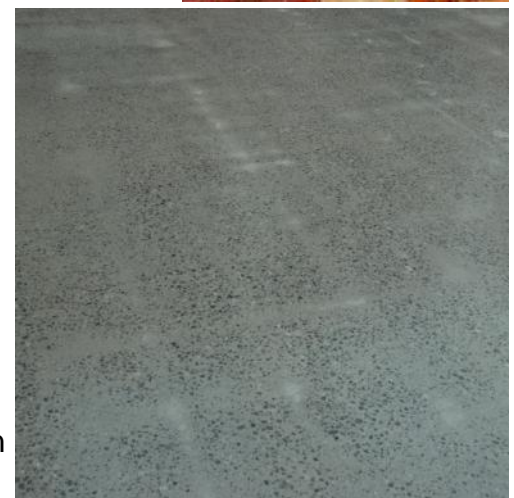
In the case of a concrete surface which is to be subsequently deep ground to expose the coarse aggregate as a "concrete terrazzo" finish, the aggregates may settle to far down resulting in an un-even aggregate exposure in the final finish.

Similarly, footprints made in wet concrete may also push aggregates too far below the surface resulting in paste pockets that will not produce a uniform aggregate exposure when the concrete is deep ground.

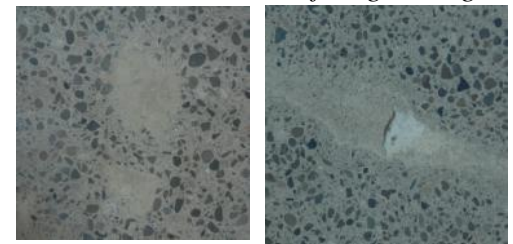
Recommendations:

Screeding should be completed using a non-vibrating screed when deep ground polished concrete is desired as a final finish.

Finishers should avoid walking in wet concrete and should wait until the concrete has set before walking on the surface.



Screed lines visible after grinding



Footprint and screed marks visible after grinding

