

RECOMMENDED DO'S & DON'TS FOR A SUCCESSFUL COLORED CONCRETE PROJECT

	DO'S	DON'TS
WEATHER	1. Look at the weather forecast to ensure no rain or inclement weather is forecasted in the next 24 hours.	1. <b>DON'T</b> pour colored concrete if it's raining or if there is inclement weather forecasted in the next 24 hours.
	2. Use only Non Chloride Accelerator during cold weather conditions.	2. <b>DON'T</b> use calcium chloride. It will cause discoloration of the concrete.
SUBGRADE	1. Place Concrete on a well-drained, damp subgrade that has adequate and uniform load-bearing characteristics.	1. <b>DON'T</b> place concrete on a subgrade that is not thoroughly compacted and dampened.
	2. Grade the subgrade so that the concrete is of uniform thickness and properly sloped for drainage.	2. <b>DON'T</b> place concrete over freestanding water, on mud, or on frozen ground or soft spots.
CONCRETE INSTALLATION	1. Adjust the slump prior to pouring out concrete.	1. <b>DON'T</b> add additional water to a load after pouring out part of the load.
	2. Pour multiple loads at the same slump to provide uniform color.	2. <b>DON'T</b> allow the slump to vary from load to load. Control the mix for good uniformity.
	3. Consolidate well and spade the concrete adjacent to the forms. Tap the forms to consolidate the edges.	3. <b>DON'T</b> over-vibrate forcing aggregate to the bottom and all the paste to the top.
FINISHING	1. For the most uniform color, skip troweling; just float and broom or use a swirl finish. Broom all surfaces in the same direction and manner.	1. <b>DON'T</b> sprinkle or otherwise add water to the surface during finishing.
	2. To reduce discoloration, use wood bull floats and darbies, not magnesium.	2. <b>DON'T</b> fog the colored concrete with water. <b>DON'T</b> wet brooms or tools. Adding water causes the surface to pale or discolor.
	3. Wait for the surface sheen, or bleed water to dissipate before troweling.	3. <b>DON'T</b> over-trowel or start troweling late. This can lead to burns and dark spots.
	4. Finish all surfaces within reasonably the same time.	4. <b>DON'T</b> use inconsistent finishing practices.
CURING	1. After final finishing, apply the recommended curing/sealing product on the surface.	1. <b>DON'T</b> ever cover the surface with poly or any other material.
	2. To provide a long lasting finish, establish a maintenance plan to re-apply the recommended sealer.	2. <b>DON'T</b> apply a sealer without verifying compatibility and application method.