

Rules for good execution of ARCHITOP® flooring

Surface preparation

Apply undiluted Ideal Work Epoxy-Coat mixed with 20% of 0.1-0.5 mm quartz and then broadcast **0.7-1.2 mm** quartz, approximately 2.5 kg / m², evenly across the surface.

Application instructions

- Apply the epoxy resin by trowel, being careful not to leave ridges or trowel marks, then proceed with broadcasting the quartz. Limit the work area so that broadcasting can be completed whilst the epoxy is still wet.
- The entire surface must be **completely** covered with quartz.
- Always wear spiked shoes or cleats to walk on the fresh epoxy
- Use a container filled with no more than half a bag of quartz to facilitate broadcasting

Preparation on ceramic floors/tiles

1. Always grind with a diamond disc.
2. Apply a fiberglass net/mesh fixed with IW-BLOCKER
3. On a surface with evident joints, apply 2 coats of Epoxy-Coat broadcast with quartz (see above), on ceramic or substrates with minimal joints, just 1 coat is sufficient

Preparation on concrete in the absence of rising damp

1. Grind or shot blast.
2. Apply a layer of Epoxy-Coat with quartz broadcast over the entire surface (see above).

Preparation on concrete in the presence of rising damp

1. Grind or shot blast.
2. Apply a coat of BARRIERA CEM
3. Apply a layer of Epoxy-Coat with quartz broadcasted over the entire surface (see above).

Preparation on a sand-cement surface

1. Sand with 24p paper
2. Possible consolidation (if necessary) with IDEAL WATER
3. Possible consolidation (if necessary) with IW-BLOCKER and fiberglass mesh (alternative)
4. Apply a layer of Epoxy-Coat with quartz broadcasted over the entire surface (see above).

Preparation of self-leveling surfaces

1. Sand
2. Consolidate with IDEAL WATER
3. Apply a layer of Epoxy-Coat with quartz broadcast over the entire surface (see above).

MOST COMMON APPLICATION ERRORS

- Use of a quartz size other than 0.7-1.2 mm which is not suitable for the Architop® application (cracks).
- Uneven distribution of the quartz leaving areas where Architop® will not be able to stick (cracks or delamination)
- Incorrect mixing of the epoxy, imperfect catalysis (cracks)
- Application during unsuitable temperatures or moisture levels.
- Trowel marks (arches) in the epoxy layer that remain visible in the finished floor, due to incorrect application and / or rolling

Applying the Architop mixture

Application instructions

- It is important to apply approximately 3.5 kg of HARDNER in 2 coats (2 kg the first coat, 1.5 kg second). This creates a thickness of about 3 mm, double the diameter of the aggregate (1.2 mm), ideal for the trowel to compact and close and tighten the surface in the best way, limiting porosity.
- The second hand must be applied when the first is still wet but is not dirty to the touch and does not allow movement of the aggregate. A too early laying of the second coat would move the already laid material, while a delayed laying would affect its adhesion.

MOST COMMON APPLICATION ERRORS

- Failure to comply with processing times due to incorrect organisation (aesthetic defects).
- Differentiated drying between areas due to air currents or heat (aesthetic defects).
- Application of excessive amount of material (cracks)

Power Floating / use of a 'helicopter'.

Application instructions

- Start the first pass and then the following pass only when the material appears compact and moist but will not dirty to the touch. Touching must not move the material. Check consistency with your hand. The intervals between each passage will be longer at lower temperatures, high humidity and shorter in opposite conditions.
- The first two steps are carried out with the disc, the following with the blades (starting at 5° angle) which are gradually used more inclined. The final step will be carried out

almost at maximum inclination. For complete closure of the surface, 7-9 passes with the blades are necessary. Make cross passes.

- By stopping the process after the first steps, the surface remains rough and suitable for outdoor use, with the subsequent steps it acquires the characteristic smooth, closed and cloudy structure.
- The perimeter bands along the walls must be finished by hand after passing with the trowel. Always keep the wall on the left and proceed so that the blades, which rotate clockwise, push the material towards the wall itself.
- Usually 3 passes by hand trowel are sufficient on the perimeter bands: first pass with hand trowel comes after the first pass with the disc, the second after the first pass with the blades, the third after one of the last passes when the surface starts to close and acquire the cloudy effect.
- During the previous processing step use IW-EC in order to lubricate and soften the surface making it easier to smooth with the trowel.
- Once the perimeter area has been processed, remove the impressions left with the trowel, remaining 10-20 cm from the wall and taking care not to ruin the smoothed areas.

MOST COMMON APPLICATOR ERRORS

- A surface that is too dry causes strong friction that overheats the blades and burns the surface (results in aesthetic defects)
- Inaccurate processing of the perimeter bands (results in aesthetic defects).
- Differentiated drying between areas due to air currents or heat (results in aesthetic defects).
- Poor cleaning of equipment.

Tips

Air circulation

Air circulation must be controlled by the applicator.

Close any openings whose air currents can accelerate the setting in exposed areas.

In cases of poor circulation, arrange fans appropriately that will help reduce waiting times.

Heat Sources

Any underfloor heating must be turned off at least 5 days before the installation.

In cold periods, keep the optimum temperature of 15°- 20°C uniform where possible.

Windows, glass doors and large windows must be darkened where sunlight could cause accelerated setting of exposed surfaces.

Fasten work lamps at high level to prevent their heat from affecting neighbouring areas.

IW-EC

IW-EC guarantees the workability and smoothness of the material, especially during manual processing close to walls, or in the last smoothing steps with the trowel in the hardest areas

where the first burns begin to be seen. By using IW-EC correctly, a more homogeneous colour and structure will be obtained.

It is sprayed onto the surface with a plastic pump and the recommended consumption is 75/100 g / m² of mixture (dilution 1: 9 with water). If applied in excess, it causes whitish halos that are difficult to remove.

When finishing the edges, spray every 2 metres to form the grout necessary to perfectly close the surface.

Interruption between floors

The separation between two Architop® jets is carried out with the specific blue 5cm canvas tape. This protects the adjacent part and creates a precise guide for the subsequent cutting of the separation joint. The tape must be applied a first time before preparation with Epoxy-coat, then before applying the Architop®. It will be removed before sanding once the material is completely dry.

On a different type of surface, in addition to the cloth tape, lay a fabric with nylon and a rigid panel which at each step will allow you to take the machine out so you can clean it without dirtying the adjacent flooring. Never leave the machine on the floor, there is a risk that the shadow or marks of the blades will remain visible when the work is finished.

Perimeter and walls

It is advisable to put an adhesive sponge tape along the entire perimeter to separate the wall from the new floor and prevent the first 20 cm band from drying faster than the rest of the floor.

Cleaning tools

After each step it is necessary to get out of the floor and clean the machine blades and trowels, otherwise the crusts of hardened material will scratch the ARCHITOP during the subsequent steps.

Mixing the material

Mix thoroughly and remove any lumps. First mix 70% of the liquid with 100% of the powder and then add the remaining liquid.

Helicopter/Power float machines

Use machines with a diameter of 60 -75 -90, which can also be maneuvered in limited environments and which pass through doors and corridors. Internal combustion machines are recommended. Electric machines must have a power of at least 2.2 kW.

Make sure that the blades are intact and sharp, if necessary sharpen them with a flex tool.

Footwear

Use CLEATED FOOTWEAR to walk on the fresh floor during the second leveling and during the first steps of the trowel. For the finishing phase, wear CIABATTE LISCIE (smooth slippers), preferably with a layer of fettuccina (soft sponge) applied under the sole.

floor protection

Prior to sealing, the floor absorbs and gets dirty easily. Until then, always use shoe covers, both for sanding and for applying the protective sealer. It may be appropriate to protect it provisionally with a breathable sheet (e.g. geotextile fabric).

IMPORTANT



Data Sheet

All information contained in this data-sheet is based on the best practical and laboratory expertise. The customer is responsible for checking the product is suitable for use. The producer does not accept any responsibility arising from incorrect application. We recommend testing the products on small surfaces prior to use on the jobsite. This data-sheet replaces and annuls all previous versions. Data may be changed anytime. We also remind you that Ideal Work products are for professional use only and Ideal Work provides customers with training opportunities upon request. Whoever uses these products without authorisation shall take full personal responsibility and the outcome will be at their own risk.

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