

Finishing Concrete Tips

Finishing Concrete Flatwork Tips

- Consult our team of experts on selecting the correct concrete mix for your project.
- After placing and consolidating concrete, use a wood or metal screed with a straight edge to strike off and level the concrete.
- Immediately float the surface with a wood or metal float A metal bullfloat (tools#1) is best for large slabs. Pushing and pulling the float edge across the slab, smoothes the small ridges left by the screeding step.
- Edge the concrete with an edging tool (tools#3) if a round smooth edge is desired. Run the edger back and forth, using the form as a guide.
- Cut the control joints. The grooving tool should be 1/4th the depth of the slab. Or, control joints may be sawed later.
- Finish or trowel the concrete as desired for function, serviceability & attractiveness, according to its end use.
 - Exterior slabs (driveways, patios, sidewalks, etc.) should be sloped to drain properly.
 - A broomed finish will give a non-slip textured surface when wet.
 - Garage or warehouse floors usually need to be level and quite smooth.
 - Repeated passes with a steel trowel and increased pressure will produce a very smooth surface.
 - Do not sprinkle water or cement on the concrete while finishing it.
 - Cure the concrete as soon as all finishing is completed and the water sheen has left the surface.
 - Our staff has information on special finishes such as; exposed aggregate, (t-5) integral color, stamped or patterned. Jusk ask!

If you are unsure of your finishing abilities and seek assistance with your concrete project, feel free to contact our office for names of qualified concrete finishers and contractors.