

# **MicroConcrete**

## **APPLICATION GUIDE**

#### **BEFORE YOU START**

- Protect surfaces adjacent to the project with masking tape, tarp and polythene.
- Prepare pail, drill with concrete mixer and trowel.
- It is important to note that once MicroConcrete is mixed with cold water, depending on the ambient temperature, you will have between 20 and 60 minutes to apply it to the desired surface.

### FOR THE INSTALLATION OF MICROCONCRETE ON SHOWER

#### A. Installation with Schulter membrane

- 1. Follow Schulter' instructions for the shower installation before ceramic tile placement.
- 2. Mix the MicroConcrete with cold water using a drill and concrete mixer, maintaining a ratio of 20mL of cold water per 100g of MicroConcrete (700mL of cold water for a 3.5kg bag and 3.6L of cold water for an 18kg bucket), until a smooth and homogeneous mixture is obtained. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 3 minutes, then mix again. **Use a scale to ensure color uniformity. (VERY IMPORTANT STEP)**
- 3. Apply a thin layer of 1 to 2 mm of MicroConcrete using Finitec's flexible trowel, making half-moon or circular motions. Once the MicroConcrete is spread over the surface, wait 2 to 5 minutes to allow it to bond with the substrate. Then, smooth the surface with a trowel to level it and achieve the desired finish. If needed, you can apply a second coat after 4 hours, once the MicroConcrete is dry to the touch. Repeat this step a third time if necessary.
- 4. Six hours after applying your final coat of MicroConcrete, sand the surface with 80 or 100 grit sandpaper, or use a trowel to remove any rough spots.
- 5. Clean dry with a brush or vacuum. Do not clean with water or a damp cloth.
- 6. After a minimum of 12 hours following the application of your final coat of MicroConcrete, apply 4 coats of the wet-look **protective sealer**. Refer to the **sealer application guide** for more details.
- 7. Apply a silicone joint between the MicroConcrete wall and the shower base and/or adjacent wall.

Note: For spraying the MicroConcrete, a hopper gun with a 4 mm nozzle and an air pressure of at least 80 psi can be used. Then, smooth the sprayed surface with a trowel.

### B. Installation on existing gypsum (Renovation)

- 1. The gypsum joints must be filled.
- 2. Apply 2 to 3 coats of a liquid membrane such as Mapelastic Aquadefense, ensuring that waterproofing tape is applied to all joints (follow the manufacturer's instructions).
- 3. Mix the MicroConcrete with cold water using a drill and concrete mixer, maintaining a ratio of 20mL of cold water per 100g of MicroConcrete (700mL of cold water for a 3.5kg bag and 3.6L of cold water for an 18kg bucket), until a smooth and homogeneous mixture is obtained. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 3 minutes, then mix again. **Use a scale to ensure color uniformity. (VERY IMPORTANT STEP)**



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- 4. Apply a thin layer of 1 or 2 mm of MicroConcrete using Finitec's flexible trowel by making half-moons or circular movements. Once the MicroConcrete is spread on your surface, wait 2 to 5 minutes to allow it to set on the substrate. Afterwards, smooth the surface with a trowel to level it and create the desired appearance. Apply a 2nd and 3rd coat after drying for 4 hours between each application. The MicroConcrete should be dry to the touch.
- 5. After 6 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, sand the surface with 80 or 100 grit sandpaper or remove any rough spots with a trowel.
- 6. Clean dry with a brush or vacuum. Do not clean with water or a damp cloth.
- 7. After a minimum of 12 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, apply 4 coats of wet-look **protective sealer**. See the sealer **application guide** for more details.
- 8. Apply a silicone joint between the MicroConcrete wall and the shower base and/or adjacent wall.

Note: For spraying MicroConcrete, a hopper gun can be used with a 4 mm nozzle and an air inlet pressure of at least 80 psi. Then, smooth the sprayed surface with a trowel.

#### C. Installation on ceramic tiles

- 1. Ensure that the ceramic surface is well adhered and stable.
- 2. Deep clean the ceramic with <u>Finitec's Surface Preparation</u>. Do not use the surface preparation on a new, unfinished, or porous surface, such as plywood, MDF, or HDF. See the surface preparation <u>application guide</u> for more details.
- 3. To optimize mechanical adhesion and facilitate installation, sand the ceramic with 40 or 60 grit and vacuum.
- 4. To reduce the risk of grout line ghosting on the MicroConcrete, grout lines should be sealed. Here are two methods:
  - Method 1: Seal the ceramic grout lines with our MicroConcrete protective sealer or a grout sealer.
  - **Method 2:** Apply a liquid membrane over the entire surface to seal the grout lines. Make sure the membrane adheres well to your ceramic. Respect the drying time.
- 5. Mix the MicroConcrete with cold water using a drill and concrete mixer, maintaining a ratio of 20mL of cold water per 100g of MicroConcrete (700mL of cold water for a 3.5kg bag and 3.6L of cold water for an 18kg bucket), until a smooth and homogeneous mixture is obtained. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 3 minutes, then mix again. **Use a scale to ensure color uniformity.** (VERY IMPORTANT STEP)
- 6. Fill the ceramic grout lines with the MicroConcrete. Here are two methods:
  - **Method 1**: Fill the grout lines with MicroConcrete using a small trowel, ensuring the grout line is level with the ceramic. If there is excess on the ceramic, it can be sanded or smoothed with a flat trowel about 4 to 5 hours after application. Clean the surface well with a vacuum. After filling the ceramic grout lines, wait at least 12 hours before applying the MicroConcrete layer.
  - **Method 2:** Apply a layer of MicroConcrete over the entire surface using the Finitec flexible trowel at a 45-degree angle, making sure to thoroughly fill the ceramic grout lines. After 4 to 5 hours, remove any rough spots using a metal trowel or sand the surface with an 80-grit sander. Clean the surface thoroughly with a vacuum. After filling the ceramic grout lines, wait at least 12 hours before applying the filler or finishing layer of MicroConcrete.

<sup>\*</sup>The goal is specifically to fill the ceramic grout lines, not to apply a uniform layer over the entire surface.



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- 7. Apply a thin layer of 1 or 2 mm of MicroConcrete with Finitec's flexible trowel, making half-moon or circular movements. Once the MicroConcrete is spread on your surface, wait 2 to 5 minutes to allow it to set on the substrate. Then, smooth the surface with a trowel to level it and create the desired appearance. Apply a 2nd and 3rd coat after a 4-hour drying time between each application. The MicroConcrete should be dry to the touch.
- 8. After 6 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, sand the surface with 80 or 100 grit sandpaper or remove any rough spots with a trowel.
- 9. Clean dry with a brush or vacuum. Do not clean with water or a damp cloth.
- 10. After a minimum of 12 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, apply 4 coats of wet-look **protective sealer**. See the sealer **application guide** for more details.
- 11. Apply a silicone joint between the MicroConcrete wall and the shower base and/or adjacent wall.

Note: For spraying MicroConcrete, a hopper gun can be used with a 4 mm nozzle and an air inlet pressure of at least 80 psi. Then, smooth the sprayed surface with a trowel.

### D. Application on Fiber Cement Panel

- 1. Apply 1 to 2 coats of a liquid membrane like Mapelastic Aquadefense, ensuring that waterproofing tape is used in all joints (follow the manufacturer's instructions).
- 2. Mix the MicroConcrete with cold water using a drill and concrete mixer, maintaining a ratio of 20mL of cold water per 100g of MicroConcrete (700mL of cold water for a 3.5kg bag and 3.6L of cold water for an 18kg bucket), until a smooth and homogeneous mixture is obtained. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 3 minutes, then mix again. **Use a scale to ensure color uniformity. (VERY IMPORTANT STEP)**
- 3. Apply a thin layer of 1 or 2 mm of MicroConcrete with Finitec's flexible trowel, making half-moon or circular movements. Once the MicroConcrete is spread on your surface, wait 2 to 5 minutes to allow it to set on the substrate. Then, smooth the surface with a trowel to level it and create the desired appearance. If needed, you can apply a second coat after 4 hours if the MicroConcrete is dry to the touch. Repeat this step a third time if necessary.
- 4. After 6 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, sand the surface with 80 or 100 grit sandpaper or remove any rough spots with a trowel.
- 5. Clean dry with a brush or vacuum. Do not clean with water or a damp cloth.
- 6. After a minimum of 12 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, apply 4 coats of wet-look **protective sealer**. See the sealer **application guide** for more details.
- 7. Apply a silicone joint between the MicroConcrete wall and the shower base and/or adjacent wall.

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### E. Application on a walk-in shower

- 1. Prepare your floor according to the current standards for a walk-in shower.
- 2. Before applying MicroConcrete to the floor, ensure that the slope leading to the drain is at least 1/8 per linear foot.
  - Note: It is very important to apply thin layers of MicroConcrete to maintain the slope, which is essential for water drainage towards the drain.
- 3a. If your surface is ceramic, to optimize mechanical adhesion and facilitate installation, sand the ceramic with 40 or 60 grit and vacuum. Then proceed to step 4.
- 3b. If your surface is not ceramic, proceed to step 5.
- 4. To reduce the risk of "ghosting" or the grouting joints showing through the MicroConcrete, grout joints must be sealed. Here are two methods:
  - Method 1: Seal the ceramic joints with our MicroConcrete sealer or a grout sealer.
  - **Method 2:** Apply a liquid membrane over the entire surface to seal the joints. Ensure the membrane adheres well to the ceramic and follow the drying time.
- 5. Mix the MicroConcrete with cold water using a drill and concrete mixer, maintaining a ratio of 20mL of cold water per 100g of MicroConcrete (700mL of cold water for a 3.5kg bag and 3.6L of cold water for an 18kg bucket), until a smooth and homogeneous mixture is obtained. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 3 minutes, then mix again. **Use a scale to ensure color uniformity. (VERY IMPORTANT STEP)** 
  - If your surface is ceramic, proceed to step 6.
  - If your surface is not ceramic, proceed to step 7.
- 6. If your surface is ceramic, it's important to fill the ceramic joints with MicroConcrete. Here are two methods:
  - **Method 1:** Fill the grout lines with MicroConcrete using a small trowel, ensuring the grout line is level with the ceramic. If there is excess on the ceramic, it can be sanded or smoothed with a flat trowel about 4 to 5 hours after application. Clean the surface well with a vacuum. After filling the ceramic grout lines, wait at least 12 hours before applying the MicroConcrete layer.
  - **Method 2**: Apply a layer of MicroConcrete over the entire surface using the Finitec flexible trowel at a 45-degree angle, making sure to thoroughly fill the ceramic grout lines. After 4 to 5 hours, remove any rough spots using a metal trowel or sand the surface with an 80-grit sander. Clean the surface thoroughly with a vacuum. After filling the ceramic grout lines, wait at least 12 hours before applying the filler or finishing layer of MicroConcrete.

<sup>\*</sup>The goal is specifically to fill the ceramic grout lines, not to apply a uniform layer over the entire surface.



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- 7. Apply a thin layer of 1 or 2 mm of MicroConcrete with Finitec's flexible trowel, making half-moon or circular movements. Once the MicroConcrete is spread on your surface, wait 2 to 5 minutes to allow it to set on the substrate. Then, smooth the surface with a trowel to level it and create the desired appearance. If needed, you can apply a second coat after 4 hours if the MicroConcrete is dry to the touch. Repeat this step a third time if necessary.
- 8. After 6 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, sand the surface with 80 or 100 grit sandpaper or remove rough spots with a trowel. Clean the surface dry, using a brush or vacuum. Do not clean with water or a damp cloth.
- 10. After a minimum of 12 hours following the application of your last layer of MicroConcrete, apply 4 coats of wet-look **protective sealer.** Refer to the sealer **application guide** for more details
- 11. Apply a silicone joint between the MicroConcrete wall and the shower base and/or adjacent wall.

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### **DRYING TIME**

Touch: between 1 and 3 hours

Cover: 4 hours Traffic: 12 hours

IMPORTANT: Wait for 1 week before using the shower after the last coat of sealer.

#### SHELFLIFE

MicroConcrete has a shelf life of two years if kept in its original packaging, well closed and stored in a dry place.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

It is the user's responsibility to read the instructions before using the product. Consult our website at www.finitec-inc.com or call our Customer Service Department at 1-888-838-4449 for more information.

#### **WARRANTY**

Finitec Hardwood Products Inc. certifies that the product is free from manufacturing defect. The user assumes all responsability for use in accordance with instructions of this label. Manufacturer's responsibility is limited to replacement of the product.

### **FIRST AID**

Contains Portland cement and sand (crystalline silica). In case of eye contact: Flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. In case of skin contact: Wash exposed and/or contaminated parts thoroughly after handling. If inhaled: Move conscious victim to fresh air. If swallowed: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting. Immediately call a poison control center or doctor.