



# Tru-TINT

## Water based concrete stain

**OVERVIEW:** Tru Impression *Tru-Tint* water based concrete stain is a safe, non-toxic product used to color various concrete surfaces. It is a safe alternative to common acid stains. It contains no hazardous components, yet produces the mottled, variegated look associated with chemical (acid) stains used in decorative concrete. NO safety equipment is required, though rubber gloves may be worn to prevent the color from staining cuticles, and it is always recommended to wear goggles when using a sprayer. The great advantage to *TI Tru-Tint* is that no “surprises” await when returning to the jobsite to check on the color development. The technician never leaves the jobsite, unless it is for a couple of hours while the *Tru-Tint* completely dries before the application of clear sealer. There is NO neutralizing of the surface. NO ammonia water, NO double or triple rinsing, NO additional drying time. An *Tru-Tint* job can be completed in a matter of hours, not days.

**PREPARATION:** If the concrete surface does not repel water and is not a really hard troweled surface then little or no prep work is required. Any previously applied sealer, paint or other oil-based product must be removed to allow absorption. If the surface is a hard troweled surface or very smooth finish that *Tru-Tint* can not penetrate when tested then light sanding or light acid etching should be performed to “open up” the surface. *TI C-A* etching solution is recommended. To test surface, just apply a small amount of *Tru-Tint* to the surface and wait for a couple of minutes. If the product does not soak into the surface and wipes up leaving little or no color, then the surface needs to be prepped by sanding or acid etching. **Sanding Floor:** Make sure that after sanding floor that clean floor with a mild cleaner and brush to get all sand particles up from pores of concrete. Then rinse well and wet vac floor while it is wet. Then test an area where it was sanded with *Tru-Tint* to make sure there is porosity in slab and all dust is removed.

**APPLICATION:** *TI Tru-Tint* can be sprayed, squirted, mopped, brushed, sponged or rolled. Care must be taken to avoid or cover up straight lines associated with rolling (unless straight lines are desired). *Tru-Tint* may be applied full strength or can be diluted with water to achieve a lighter hue. *Tru-Tint* color is built-up and may require repeat applications, depending upon the porosity of the concrete. It is not recommended for use on extremely porous substrates (concrete block or “just floated and broomed” surfaces). For extremely porous surfaces or on heavily sanded surface ½ pt to 1 pt of water based acrylic sealer can be added per gallon of *Tru-Tint* to decrease the absorption and gives you the color without using as much product. When using a single color of *Tru-Tint*, the first step is to apply completely over the entire surface. A single color of *Tru-Tint* in single application, achieves mottling by the varying degrees of porosity within the surface of the concrete. Additional “acid” like effects are achieved through further applications, either in complete coverage or random applications. Further applications depend upon desired look and porosity of the concrete.

- ◆ When using multiple colors, apply the lighter colors first.
- ◆ However, yellow can be applied over red to “orange” it up a bit.

- ◆ White can be applied first, either in complete coverage or randomly, which results in more extreme mottling and a broader range of colors. The white base coat allows for brighter, more vibrant, colors. **NOTE** The White *Tru Tint* is of heavier pigment loading and care is recommended when applying white over other colors, as the white may be too overbearing. The white also shows settling, so keep product shaken or stirred.
- ◆ Each coat contributes a little “primer effect” to the successive coat. Meaning that each additional coat may take longer to dry, and the latter application may be more pronounced.
- ◆ The colors can be mixed in any fashion. They can be mixed together before application, and may actually separate a little to produce mottling by slightly different colors. More control and distinct colors is achieved by building one color on top of the other.
- ◆ The edges of puddles will leave very distinctive veining, upon drying.
- ◆ If some areas of the substrate are to be discovered to be much more porous than others, spend some time and product on these areas, before finishing the entire job.

**Always sample test an area for proper technique and results before actually using.**

**SEALING:** Follow the manufacturers’ guidelines. Remember, a water-based product has just been applied and different sealers have varying tolerance to additional moisture. The drying of *Tru-Tint* can be promoted by any means, not to exceed 200° F. *Tru-Tint* leaves an inert pigment upon drying. Slight residual material at the surface is acceptable; it will be incorporated into the sealer and bonded to the surface. However, White *Tru-Tint* should be completely dry and checked for residue if the sealer is being applied by any other means than spraying. The White can be picked-up and transferred by some sealers, especially if rolled to “tackiness”. If this transference of color is taking place, **STOP!** Additional drying time is probably needed. Switching to a sprayer for the first coat of sealer is another option. A lower solids level for the first coat of clear sealer is a third remedy. Allow 24 hours before permitting foot traffic on sealed area. Allow 72 hours before heavy traffic or vehicle traffic.

**COVERAGE:** 1 GALLON *Tru-Tint* covers 200-300 sq. ft. per coat depending on porosity of concrete at full strength. 1 QT coverage is 50 to 75 sq ft. 8oz size covers 12 to 20 sq ft and is often used for highlighting.

**WARRANTY** This product is warranted to be of merchantable quality when used according to the instruction herein. It is not warranted to be suitable for any purpose or use other than the general purpose for which it is intended. Liability under this warranty is limited to the replacement of the product as purchased, if found to be defective upon inspection by the manufacturer/seller. This limited warranty is issued and accepted in lieu of all other expressed warranties and *explicitly excludes* liability for consequential damages. Buyer assumes all risk and liability resulting from the use of this product.

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