

# How to Repair Roller Marks & Spray Patterns from Unevenly Applied Acrylic Sealer

# **Necessary Supplies:**

- Short nap, solvent resistant roller cover & long handle extension
- Solvent resistant metal roller pan
- 2" solvent resistant brush
- Xylene compatible hand pump sprayer
- Natural bristle broom
- Xylene (1 gallon per 300 ft<sup>2</sup> of concrete surface)

Unevenly sealed concrete can be very unsightly. Inconsistent spray patterns or "tiger stripes" are often the result of:

- A sprayer tip whose orifice is partially clogged, resulting in an uneven spray pattern.
- Inconsistent sprayer pressure that varies sealer delivery, or creates drips and sputters.
- Uneven application motion that results in overlaps and voids.

Irregular roller application can also produce sharply defined light and dark areas.

- Roller pressure can create "wakes" off the roller cover edges.
- Inconsistent saturation of the roller cover can result in uneven dispersion of the sealer.

Of course, these issues can be avoided by using good application techniques that result in a consistent coating across the entire concrete surface. But in the event this problem exists, it's usually possible to improve (if not eliminate) the appearance of your concrete.

# **Correction Process:**

This is <u>not</u> a method for removing sealer from concrete. It is intended solely to rectify deficient aesthetics associated with solvent-based sealer that is whitening, blushing or disbonding. Do not attempt this process to repair water-based products. Always try on a small test area to assure satisfaction with the results.

### Step 1

Apply Xylene to the problem area at a rate of 300 ft<sup>2</sup> per gallon. Work in manageable sections that can be reached with a handled roller. Allow the Xylene to dwell on the surface for 1 to 2 minutes until the sealer

has softened.

# Step 2

Using the roller and handle extension, dampen the roller cover in Xylene and work the sealer in a back and forth manner similar to painting. Roll from areas of heavy application towards areas of light application in an effort to create a more uniform coating thickness. Roll evenly and consistently, being careful not to leave a random roller pattern or entrap air in the sealer. If the sealer has been significantly over applied, it may be necessary to use a natural broom to gently scrub the acrylic. Be careful not to disrupt the accent colors in stamped concrete. Use a Xylene dampened roller to remove broom marks.

# Step 3

Working in manageable and reachable sections, continue this process over the entire repair area. A 2" solvent resistant paint brush can be used to remove excess sealer from deep recesses and joints.

### Step 4

Allow the Xylene to evaporate and the sealer to dry. It may be necessary to repeat steps 1 through 3 if the acrylic buildup is excessive.

## **Tech Tips:**

- Work in manageable size areas that you can reach with a long handled roller.
- This method works best on a cool, overcast day with no wind.
- An uneven film of acrylic will leave darker areas where acrylic is over-applied. A thin even film or coating is preferred.