

### Important Note

This application manual is provided as a general guide for the application of Parchem Construction Supplies' Products. It is intended for use by applicators who have experience working with concrete and is not intended as an introduction to concrete practices nor is it intended for the use of homeowners. Concrete and similar materials are natural products and are expected to have natural variances and other factors beyond the scope of this document. As such, the suitability of any product or application technique should always be considered by the Applicator on a case-by-case basis before use. Existing conditions and surrounds should be taken into account and the necessary site and surface preparation carried out.

The details herein should be treated as advice only as they are based on the general case. The final decision to use any product rests with the Applicator based on knowledge of the particular site and having carried out any necessary suitability tests before application. Further advice should be sought before use if the intended Applicator is not certain of product suitability.

All appropriate safety precautions should always be in place before commencing work. Particular care should be taken to observe local council and EPA regulations at all times.

Licensing requirements should be checked in the individual areas where the work is to be carried out.

### Introduction

The Fauxtex stencil pattern concrete system produces a durable decorative surface on concrete to simulate brick, block and masonry paving.

Fauxtex colour hardener is applied to the surface of freshly placed concrete and has been tested suitable as a decorative wear surface on hardened concrete used for pathways and roadways provided that:

- Installation is completed by experienced concrete contractors skilled in the application of the Fauxtex stencil pattern concrete.
- The Fauxtex system is installed in compliance with the advice issued in this document.
- Control joints are placed in the concrete to control cracking induced by drying shrinkage and temperature change.
- When used in locations where frost resistance is required, the concrete is designed to resist freezing and thawing; i.e. air entrained concrete.

Installation of the Fauxtex stencil pattern concrete specified in this document is independent from the design and suitability of the underlying concrete and for the supporting sub-base / ground.

### Application Instructions

- Ensure freshly laid concrete is placed, compacted and finished in accordance with good concreting practice.
- Valuable time will be saved and, the decorative appearance of the concrete will benefit from planning the layout and correct placement of the paper stencil. Always check colour and pattern before pouring.
- Place the paper stencil when the bleed water has evaporated (or has been physically removed) and when only minor bleed water is still rising. The concrete must still be soft to touch.

### Placement of header course

- Header course must be placed before the application of the concrete stencil to the remaining surface area of the concrete slab.
- Make sure that you take steps to ensure correct alignment of the header course.
- Unroll header course stencil from the top of the roll and place carefully on the concrete surface. Care must be taken not to stretch the stencil. Check header course stencil position to ensure alignment and all horizontal stencil "joints" are at right angles to the edge of the formwork over the full run of the concrete slab.
- If required, use scissors to completely remove the leading edge (outside edge) of the header course stencil against the formwork. This will result in an approximate 10mm space between the formwork and the horizontal stencil joints, necessary for bullnose edging the concrete during the application of colour hardener.
- Lightly trowel header course with a pointed trowel or stencil roller full run of the header.
- Do not imbed header course into the concrete surface.

### Placement of stencil

- Unroll paper stencil from the top of the roll to the required length. Allow an extra amount for wastage and alignment.
- Place stencil on the concrete surface - beginning at the centre then moving out to the ends. Take care not to step on the wet concrete.
- The stencil is designed to overlap in a sequence that will create a continuous pattern.



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## Where the header course is used

- Overlap stencil edge onto the joint of the header course for straight run applications.
- Overlap stencil fully onto the header course for diagonal run applications.

## Where header course is not used

- Butt the full outside or leading edge of the paper stencil to the formwork for straight run applications.
- Overlap stencil paper fully onto the formwork for diagonal run applications.
- When stencil is placed and correctly aligned, lightly run a stencil roller or fresno trowel over the stencil surface. DO NOT IMBED the stencil into the concrete surface as this may cause chipping of the paver edges when the stencil is removed.
- Use scissors to trim off excess stencil where it overlaps formwork and / or header course to its correct length and alignment. Allow a 5mm overlap on to the header course.
- Place next run of stencil paper. Align the stencil pattern to the first run then precisely overlap onto the stencil edge of the first run to produce a continuous pattern.

**NOTE:** If re-alignment of stencil is necessary, lift stencil from each end. Avoid excessive dragging of the paper as stretching may occur, causing alignment difficulties and unnecessary paper wastage.

- Use scissors to neatly trim off excess stencil where it overlaps the first run of stencil and the formwork.
- Repeat stencil placement process over the area of concrete to be 'paved'.

## Application for Colour Hardener

- Multi Mix Colour Hardener is broadcast in a minimum two separate, even coats after concrete has been screeded and bull floated.
- Multi Mix Colour Hardener is applied by hand casting to freshly poured concrete. Ensure gloves and protective mask is worn.
- Dusting and/or colour staining may occur on surrounding exposed surfaces or structures. Masking with plastic sheeting is recommended where appropriate.
- Apply first coat after bleed water has disappeared, as hydrating bleed water may cause delamination.
- Apply at the rate of approximately 8-15 square metres per 20 kg bag (recommended 8m<sup>2</sup> per bag for commercial areas).
- After colour hardener has been applied, bullfloat or trowel total area to achieve a smooth even coloured surface.
- Over-trowelling the surface may cause cement slurry to rise through the colour hardener resulting in discolouration

- Under-trowelling the surface may weaken the compressive strength of the colour hardener, greatly reducing its service life.
- Repeat application process for second coat. A third coat may be required, depending on the colour, (lighter colours get less m<sup>2</sup>). Allow approximately 8m<sup>2</sup> per bag for lighter colours.



## Suggested Textures

These are only a small selection of the type of finishes available.

### Steel trowel finish - Smooth

Steel trowels produce a smooth finish. Bear in mind that steel trowelled finishes can become slippery when wet.

**Caution:** Avoid steel trowelled or smooth finishes on sloping driveways and roadways and sloping pathways.

### Coving trowel finish

Coving trowels produce an even finish, with a very mild swirling texture. As with steel trowelled finishes, coving trowel finishes can also tend to become slippery when wet.

Coving or re-coving areas at different times will result in colour variation.

**Caution:** Avoid coving trowel or smooth finishes on sloping driveways and roadways and sloping pathways.

### Broom finish

Broom finishes produce a textured surface and are less likely to be slippery when wet. Broom finishes are achieved by pulling a broom across the concrete surface after it has been steel trowelled.

Before applying a broom finish, the colour hardened surface must be firm. Clean the broom after each pass over the concrete surface.

### Scratch finish

Scratch finishes more closely simulate stone and brick masonry paving. To achieve this "look" will first require a slight adjustment in the timing between the base coat (first) and surface coat (second) application of the colour hardener.

Allow the trowelled-in base coat of colour hardener to sit only

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slightly longer than normal.

Apply the surface coat of colour hardener, and allow it to “dry-up” almost all of the remaining surface moisture.

Use kneeling boards and with a wood float work (scratch) the surface coat of colour hardener into the base coat.

**NOTE:** To achieve optimum results and maximum compressive strength, the coarse aggregates of the surface coat of colour hardener must be fully imbedded (worked) into the surface.

## Hit and Miss

**The name Hit and Miss describes the finished look, NOT the method of application.**

This finish may be done when the concrete is dry enough and hard enough to support the weight of a finisher either on knee boards or walking with flat sole shoes. This finish is achieved by trowelling the concrete surface at different pressures throughout the job, leaving about 50% smooth and 50% rough texture in the surface to give a similar appearance of brick paving. The high points within the surface are smoother, and the low points are left with a coarse finish

**Important: both coats of colour hardener must be sufficiently trowelled to ensure durability of decorative surfaces.**

The above finishes are guidelines only. There is no recommended type of finishing method. The main requirement is that the colour has been sufficiently worked into the concrete surface to obtain durability.

Prevailing weather conditions combined with inappropriate mix designs of concretes can limit the time for concrete placement and finishing and the application of the Fauxtex stencil pattern concrete system.

## Sealing

- Parchem recommend allowing concrete to cure for minimum 14 days before cleaning and sealing.
- Refer to relevant Lustre Seal Sealer Technical Data Sheet.

## Important notice

A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and Technical Data Sheet (TDS) are available from the Parchem website or upon request from the nearest Parchem sales office. Read the SDS and TDS carefully prior to use as application or performance data may change from time to time. In emergency, contact any Poisons Information Centre (phone 13 11 26 within Australia) or a doctor for advice.

## Product disclaimer

This Application Guide summarises our best knowledge of the product, including how to use and apply the product based on the information available at the time. You should read all literature carefully and consider the information in the context of how the product will be used, including in conjunction with any other product and the type of surfaces to, and the manner in which, the product will be applied. Our responsibility for products sold is subject to our standard terms and conditions of sale. Parchem does not accept any liability either directly or indirectly for any losses suffered in connection with the use or application of the product whether or not in accordance with any advice, specification, recommendation or information given by it.