



**SKIMSTONE  
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR CONCRETE FLOORS**

Note: Label and Brochure Instructions are abbreviated.  
Read and follow all directions in this  
instruction booklet before using product.

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# SKIMSTONE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONCRETE FLOORS

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NOTICE: SKIMSTONE PRODUCTS ARE FORMULATED FOR USE AS A SYSTEM. ANY MIXTURE WILL HAVE THE HAZARDS OF ALL COMPONENTS. READ THIS INSTRUCTION BOOKLET AND ALL OF THE PRODUCT LABELS BEFORE USING. FOLLOW ALL PRECAUTIONS.

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## CONCRETE SURFACE PREPARATION

1. All concrete surfaces must be clean and free of loose material (dirt and debris), oil, grease, glues or other contaminants.
2. Previously sealed or painted concrete should be taken to bare concrete by grinding or shot blasting. Chemical strippers and/or acid etching is NOT recommended.
3. To ensure adhesion on extremely smooth or slick concrete, surface texture (profile) may be created through mechanical abrasion.
4. New concrete should be allowed to age at least 30 days prior to applying SkimStone.
5. The concrete surface must be completely dry.
6. For best results use when temperature is between 50 and 90 deg. F. For exterior applications it is also important that the humidity is low, and there has been no rainfall 48 hours prior to beginning the application and 24 hours after completing the application process.
7. Fill small holes, cracks and surface defects with SkimStone. Pour a small amount of SkimStone Type I Solution into a mixing container and add SkimStone Powder to the consistency of patching compound or putty. Apply with a trowel or putty knife and allow to dry for 24 hours.
8. For larger surface defects, sand (70 mesh) may be added at a ratio of 2 parts sand to 1 part SkimStone Powder, then mixed into SkimStone Type I Solution at a ratio of 2 1/2 parts sand/ powder to 1 part SkimStone Type I Solution. (For example: mix 12 oz. Sand with 6 oz. SkimStone Powder, then stir into 8 oz. SkimStone Type I Solution). Apply with a trowel or putty knife and allow to dry for 24 hours.
9. Tape off or mask adjoining areas and baseboards to protect against contact with the SkimStone. Use a low adhesive painter's tape on painted surfaces.



- After cleaning the concrete, pour approximately 1 tablespoon of water on the surface. If the concrete changes color and absorbs the water, it will accept SkimStone.
- To make sure the concrete is dry, place a rubber mat on the surface. Wait two days and then remove the mat. If there's no sign of moisture, the concrete is dry.
- Finish all prep work before you start mixing the SkimStone.

## COLOR SELECTION

SkimStone ColorPaks are available in a variety of exclusive premixed colors. Each ColorPak can be used at partial, full or double strength. SkimStone ColorPaks are formulated from lead-free industrial grade colorants to provide excellent color stability and fade resistance. Refer to the SkimStone color chart for your color selections.

A standard SkimStone application uses a three-coat system. Beautiful textured appearances can be created by simply using one color, in one color strength, for each of the three coats. For added variety, different colors and/or color strengths may be used for each coat. ColorPaks can also be intermixed to create your own unique colors! You'll find some great color ideas and sample combinations at [www.skimstone.com](http://www.skimstone.com).

## CALCULATING QUANTITIES

Before mixing any color you will need to first calculate the square footage and assess the surface texture of the project area; then determine the amounts of Type I Solution, ColorPak, and Powder required for each coat. Skimstone coverage will vary based upon the condition and texture of the substrate. The rougher the surface texture, the more material you will need for the first coat. (Note: you can also use the online calculator at <http://www.skimstone.com/calculator>.)

Use the numbered scale below to determine the surface texture of your floor, then reference that number when calculating the amounts of Type I Solution and Powder for the *first coat only*.

RATING SCALE FOR SURFACE TEXTURE	
#1:	Surface appears glossy and is smooth in appearance and to the touch. Few or no cracks present.
#2:	Surface dull and smooth in appearance. Texture resembles fine sandpaper. Few or no cracks present.
#3:	Surface dull and rough in appearance. Texture resembles very coarse sandpaper. Some exposed aggregate and cracks.
#4:	Surface very rough in appearance. Surface quite weathered and aggregate exposed.
#5:	Surface extremely rough or "broomed". Surface weathered and aggregate exposed with deep recesses present throughout.

### CALCULATING TYPE I SOLUTION / POWDER QUANTITIES

1 <sup>st</sup> Coat - Material Requirements per 100 Square Feet					
Substrate Rank	1	2	3	4	5
Type I Solution	9 oz.	36 oz.	90 oz.	Starting with the ratio for a #3 rank, slowly add additional powder until a thick but workable mixture is achieved.	
Powder	10 oz.	40 oz.	140 oz.		

2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Coats - Material Requirements per 100 Square Feet	
Type I Solution	9 oz.
Powder	10 oz.

*Note: Measure by volume with a measuring cup. Do not pack the Powder.*

### CALCULATING COLORPAK QUANTITIES (For full color strengths)

The amount of ColorPak that should be added for each coat is equal to the number of ounces of Type I Solution for each coat divided by 32 (see example below). This calculation will provide the ColorPak quantity needed to achieve full color strength (one ColorPak or 4 oz. per gallon). If you desire a partial color strength, then *divide* your final answer by 2 (or 4 or 8, you decide...). Likewise, if you desire double color strength, *multiply* your final answer by 2, and so on. *Caution: Do not exceed a ratio of 2 ColorPaks (8 oz) per gallon of Type I Solution. Note: 1 ColorPak = 4.0 ounces.*

Example: You wish to apply the first coat of SkimStone over a 400 feet<sup>2</sup> area that you have deemed to be of substrate rank #2. You will need 144 ounces of Type I solution, 192 ounces of powder, and 4.5 ounces of ColorPak:

$$144 \text{ ounces Type I Solution} \div 32 = 4.5 \text{ ounces of ColorPak}$$

PROJECT WORKSHEET			
1. Measure the project area and calculate the square footage by multiplying the length times the width. (Length in feet x Width in feet = square feet). Enter your results below. 2. Use the chart (above) to determine the amount of SkimStone Type I Solution for each coat. Record these amounts. 3. Use the chart (above) to determine the amount of SkimStone Powder for each coat. Record these amounts. 4. Finally, use the formula above to calculate the amount of ColorPak for each coat. Record these amounts.			
<b>Length _____ ft. x Width _____ ft. = _____ Square Feet</b>			
	Type I Solution (ounces)	Powder (ounces)	ColorPak (ounces)
1 <sup>st</sup> Coat			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Coat			
3 <sup>rd</sup> Coat			

Note: 1 Tablespoon = .5 ounce, 1 Teaspoon = .17 ounce, ½ Teaspoon = .08 ounce

## MIXING THE FIRST COAT OF SKIMSTONE

### For One Color Projects (where all coats also use the same color strength)

1. Refer to your worksheet and add up the amount of SkimStone Type I Solution you will need *for all three coats*.
2. Stir the Type I Solution well.
3. Measure and pour the total amount of Type I Solution needed for all three coats into a clean mixing bucket.
4. Stir the ColorPak(s) and add the desired amount to the Type I Solution. ***Important! Do not exceed a ratio of 2 ColorPaks (8 oz) per gallon of Type I Solution. Excessive color may affect cure times and development of full hardness.***
5. Stir the color and Type I Solution thoroughly. Color must be evenly dispersed to assure accurate and consistent color of the SkimStone. ***Important! Color will settle. Be sure to mix thoroughly before measuring and pouring or before adding SkimStone Powder.***
6. Refer to your worksheet to determine how much of the Type I Solution is needed for *the first coat only*. Measure and pour this amount of the tinted Type I Solution into a clean mixing bucket.
7. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much Powder is needed for *the first coat only*. A dust mask should be worn when handling the Powder. Do not pack the Powder when measuring. Measure and *gradually* stir this amount of Powder into the mixing bucket with the colored Type I Solution until the mixture is smooth, lump-free, and evenly colored. Failure to mix immediately may result in the material becoming hard and unusable.
8. ***Always add the Powder to the Type I Solution.*** Doing the reverse will cause the material to become hard and unworkable.
9. If using drill attachment, follow manufacturers directions and safety instructions. Care must be taken when using electrical tools around water or water based products.
10. Proceed to instructions for applying SkimStone.

### For Multiple Color Projects (and/or multiple strength colors)

1. Refer to your worksheet to determine the amount of SkimStone Type I Solution you will need *for the first coat only*.
2. Stir the Type I Solution well.
3. Measure and pour the amount needed for the first coat into a clean mixing bucket.
4. Stir the ColorPak(s) and add the desired amount to the Type I Solution. ***Important! Do not exceed a ratio of 2 ColorPaks (8 oz) per gallon of Type I Solution. Excessive color may affect cure times and development of full hardness.***
5. Stir the color and Type I Solution thoroughly. Color must be evenly dispersed to assure accurate and consistent color of the SkimStone. ***Important! Color will settle. Be sure to mix thoroughly before adding the SkimStone Powder.***
6. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much Powder is needed for *the first coat only*. A dust mask should be worn when handling the Powder. Do not pack the Powder when measuring. Measure and *gradually* stir this amount of Powder into the mixing bucket with the colored Type I Solution until the mixture is smooth, lump-free and evenly colored. Failure to mix immediately may result in the material becoming hard and unusable.
7. ***Important! Always add the Powder to the Type I Solution.*** Doing the reverse will cause the material to become hard and unworkable.
8. If using drill attachment, follow manufacturers directions and safety instructions. Care must be taken when using electrical tools around water or water based products.
9. Proceed to instructions for applying SkimStone.

## APPLYING SKIMSTONE

1. Stir well and pour approximately 1 cup of the SkimStone mixture onto the prepared concrete.
2. Use a metal finishing trowel (rectangular with straight-edge) and hold the trowel at an angle. Using broad sweeping strokes, spread the mixture in a *very thin coat*.
3. Continue the process until the entire surface has been coated with SkimStone.
4. During the application periodically clean the trowel with warm water to avoid build up of dried material that could leave scratch marks in the wet SkimStone.
5. SkimStone will thicken while sitting in the mixing bucket and during the application. Stirring often will keep the material at a workable consistency. If the mixture becomes too thick while applying, put back into the mixing bucket and stir until uniform. If the mixture is thicker than desired in the mixing bucket, thin *very sparingly* with the colored Type I Solution. Caution: Add in 1 oz. increments or less. Do not over thin. ***Do not thin with water.***
6. When finished, allow to dry completely—typically 1-2 hours depending upon temperature and humidity—before applying the next coat.
7. SkimStone will lighten in color and have a chalky appearance when dry. The rich color and appearance will develop with subsequent coats and the use of SkimStone Protective Sealer.
8. Remove rough spots or raised areas by lightly rubbing with a dry rag or sandpaper. Always wear a dust mask to avoid breathing sanding dust.



- Pouring too much mixture onto the surface can make it difficult to apply a very thin coat. By starting with a cup or less, you can increase or decrease the amount to fit your level of comfort and ability.
- The concrete will show through in places on the first coat. This helps to achieve the appearance of texture when the second and third coats are applied.
- Unless you want the look of a solid color painted surface, keep the application *very thin*. How thin is thin? Well, if you were to apply SkimStone to a piece of glass and hold it up to the light, the coating would be translucent and allow light to easily pass through. The angle of the trowel will control the thickness of the application. Increasing the pressure and the angle between the trowel and the surface will result in thinner coats.
- You can very lightly sand the entire surface between coats if you prefer a smoother surface. However, be careful not to remove too much color. Always wear dust mask to avoid breathing sanding dust.
- You can save the SkimStone mixture overnight by pouring (floating) approximately 1 oz. of colored Type I Solution over the top of it. Place a layer of plastic wrap directly on the surface of the mixture to restrict contact with air. Cover container with aluminum foil and refrigerate. Be sure to label and keep out of the reach of children!
- If you're applying SkimStone to a large area, a pair of kneepads is recommended.
- You can save a small sample of each of the Colored Type I Solution, Powder and Protective Sealer to make your own touch-up kit.

## MIXING THE SECOND AND THIRD COATS OF SKIMSTONE

### For One Color Projects (where all coats also use the same color strength)

1. Stir the previously colored Type I Solution thoroughly.
2. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much Type I Solution is needed. Measure and pour this amount of colored Type I Solution into a clean mixing bucket.
3. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much Powder is needed. A dust mask should be worn when handling the Powder. Do not pack the Powder when measuring. Measure and *gradually* stir this amount of Powder into the mixing bucket with the colored Type I Solution until the mixture is smooth, lump-free and evenly colored. Failure to mix immediately may result in the material becoming hard and unusable. *Always add the Powder to the Type I Solution.* Doing the reverse will cause the material to become hard and unworkable.
4. The second and third coats are mixed at a thinner consistency than the first coat.
5. Repeat the instructions for applying SkimStone.
6. When finished, allow to dry completely—typically 1-2 hours depending upon temperature and humidity—before applying the next coat.
7. After completing the final coat of SkimStone allow to dry 8 hours or overnight before applying SkimStone Protective Sealer.

### For Multiple Color Projects (and/or multiple strength colors)

1. Stir the Type I Solution well.
2. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much Type I Solution is needed. Measure and pour this amount of Type I Solution into a clean mixing bucket.
3. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much ColorPak is needed. Stir the ColorPak. Measure the desired amount and stir into the Type I Solution until the color is evenly dispersed.
4. Refer to the worksheet to determine how much Powder is needed. A dust mask should be worn when handling the Powder. Do not pack the Powder when measuring. Measure and *gradually* stir this amount of Powder into the mixing bucket with the colored Type I Solution until the mixture is smooth, lump-free and evenly colored. Failure to mix immediately may result in the material becoming hard and unusable. *Always add the Powder to the Type I Solution.* Doing the reverse will cause the material to become hard and unworkable.
5. The second and third coats are mixed at a thinner consistency than the first coat.
6. Repeat the instructions for applying SkimStone.
7. When finished, allow to dry completely—typically 1-2 hours depending upon temperature and humidity—before applying the next coat.
8. After completing the final coat of SkimStone allow to dry 8 hours or overnight before applying SkimStone Protective Sealer.

## CLEAN UP

1. Clean trowel immediately with water. Dried SkimStone can be removed with sandpaper or a scraper.
2. Allow leftover mixture to harden outdoors prior to disposing of in garbage.
3. Do not pour liquid SkimStone down sinks, toilets or drains.

## SKIMSTONE PROTECTIVE SEALER

SkimStone Protective Sealer provides additional durability while bringing out the full depth and color of your SkimStone floor. This easy to use waterborne urethane sealer is designed for both residential and commercial applications. Four to five coats are recommended for full color development and maximum surface protection for interior applications. When applied to exterior surfaces where temperatures and moisture levels will fluctuate, no more than two coats of sealer should be applied, allowing the surface to breathe. One gallon of Protective Sealer will cover up to 1600 ft<sup>2</sup>.

### Surface Preparation:

Allow the final coat of SkimStone to dry at least 8 hours or overnight before applying the Protective Sealer. Make sure the surface is clean and free of dust or debris. For best results use when temperature is between 50° and 90° F.

### Applying SkimStone Protective Sealer:

1. Gently stir or rock container back and forth to mix. Do NOT shake. Shaking may cause air bubbles to form and be trapped in the dried film.
2. Pour ½ to 1 cup of Protective Sealer onto the surface.
3. Use a *new* paint pad applicator and immediately spread using a random motion.
4. Apply thin—but do not allow the pad to become completely dry.
5. Continue applying SkimStone Protective Sealer *thinly* until the entire surface is coated.
6. Allow to completely dry before applying the second coat, typically 1-2 hours. Note: cold temperatures or excessive humidity will extend dry time.
7. As the first coat dries, it will penetrate and begin to seal the SkimStone surface. A chalky appearance may still be present.
8. Immediately clean the paint pad with warm water to prevent the bristles from drying together.
9. Allow surface to completely dry before applying additional coats.

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE

### Interiors:

Allow 24 hours to dry before permitting light foot traffic or moving in furniture. Maximum hardness of the Protective Sealer will be achieved within 7-10 days. Use floors with care during this period. Avoid contact with water. Do not cover with rugs and avoid sliding furniture across surface. Maintain by regular sweeping and vacuuming. Immediately wipe up spills with damp rag. Clean sealed surface with SkimStone Cleaner as needed. Use protective felt pads on furniture legs to protect from scratching. For high traffic areas or commercial spaces, a suitable wax or acrylic polish may be used & maintained as the sacrificial wear coat.

### Exteriors:

Allow 24 hours to dry before permitting light foot traffic. Only two coats of Sealer are recommended on exterior applications to provide some “color pop” but still allow the surface to breathe & moisture to pass through the substrate without blistering or peeling the Sealer. If additional spill protection or mar resistance is desired, topcoat the SkimStone Sealer with an exterior clear finish designed specifically to provide the desired properties. Always test a small inconspicuous area for compatibility before using.

## REPAIR

Excessive wear, especially in high traffic areas, may cause the surface to become dull over time. Floors that have been maintained with SkimStone Cleaner may simply be mopped, swept, and allowed to dry prior to reapplication of SkimStone Protective Sealer. Floors that have been maintained with other cleaning products may need to be lightly sanded, or require additional preparation to ensure proper adhesion, prior to the reapplication of SkimStone Protective Sealer.

If your SkimStone floor becomes damaged, you can use the original material you saved for touch-up or easily start with new.

1. Using a circular motion, lightly sand the damaged area and the immediate surrounding area with 220 grit, or finer, sandpaper. Always wear a dust mask to avoid breathing sanding dust.
2. Mix the appropriate amount of Powder with the colored Type I Solution and apply. Be sure to “feather” into the surrounding area.
3. Repeat all steps, including dry times, from original application.

## RECOATS AND COLOR CHANGE

Are you ready to remodel or redecorate? No Problem!

Unlike other traditional flooring materials, it's easy to change the color or appearance of your SkimStone floor! To ensure proper adhesion, sand the surface to remove the majority of the Protective Sealer and then follow the original instructions for mixing and applying SkimStone.

## SPECIAL EFFECTS

Feel a creative urge coming on? Have some fun...

Not only are there an infinite number of color combinations but the designs are endless too. To produce a totally different look, try applying SkimStone with a brush, rag, or sponge. Use painters' tape, automotive striping tape, or removable peel and stick masking paper to create your own patterns for brick, stone, slate, special borders...you're only limited by your imagination!

## OTHER SURFACES

Now, this starts to get a little tricky. While formulated specifically to be applied over concrete, SkimStone will adhere to almost any clean, porous substrate. However, don't forget that you're working with cement, among other things. When applying SkimStone to a vertical surface it can get quite messy — and special care must be taken to protect your eyes from accidental contact with the material. Additionally, the use of metal lath or fiberglass cloth is often required to stabilize SkimStone when applied to vertical or curved surfaces. It should also be noted that SkimStone is a *decorative finishing system* and is not intended for use as a structural element.

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The contents of each package must be blended with other components before use. Any mixture will have the hazards of all components. Read Instruction Booklet and all product labels. Follow all precautions.

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### SKIMSTONE TYPE I SOLUTION

**WARNING!** Prolonged or repeated skin and/or eye contact may cause irritation. Use with adequate ventilation. Wear protective eyewear to protect against eye contact from splash or accidental contact. Wear gloves to avoid contact with skin. **First Aid:** In case of eye contact, flush immediately with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and get medical attention immediately. For skin, wash thoroughly with soap and water. If swallowed, get medical attention immediately.

**Keep Out Of Reach Of Children**

### SKIMSTONE POWDER

**WARNING!** Contains Portland Cement and Crystalline Silica. Avoid eye contact and prolonged contact with skin. Do not breathe dust. Cancer hazard from inhalation of crystalline silica dusts with occupational exposures. Risk depends on duration and level of exposure. Overexposure may cause kidney and lung damage. Use only with adequate ventilation. Wear appropriate NIOSH approved particulate respirator or dust mask. Wear gloves and protective eyewear to avoid contact with eyes and skin. Wash thoroughly after using. **First Aid:** In case of eye contact, flush with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention immediately. For skin, wash with soap and water. If irritation persists, get medical attention. If inhaled, remove to fresh air. If swallowed, get medical attention.

**Keep Out Of Reach Of Children**

Warning! This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer.

### SKIMSTONE PROTECTIVE SEALER

**WARNING!** Contains n-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone and Propylene glycol. CAUSES EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION. INHALING VAPORS MAY AFFECT BRAIN AND NERVOUS SYSTEM AND CAUSE HEADACHES, DIZZINESS OR NAUSEA. Avoid breathing vapors and contact with eyes and skin. Do not take internally. **Use Only With Adequate Ventilation.** Open doors and windows to ensure fresh air entry during application and drying. If you experience eye watering, headache, dizziness or nausea, wear an appropriate properly fitted respirator. Follow respirator manufacturers directions for use. Wear gloves to prevent skin contact. Wear protective eyewear if necessary to protect against accidental splash. **First Aid:** In case of eye or skin contact, flush immediately with plenty of water for 15 minutes and get medical attention if irritation persists. If affected by inhalation of vapor, remove to fresh air. If swallowed, get medical attention immediately.

**Keep Out Of Reach Of Children**

Warning! This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

### SKIMSTONE COLORPAK

**WARNING!** Contains Ethylene Glycol Monobutyl Ether. Harmful if inhaled, may affect the brain or nervous system causing dizziness, headache or nausea. Causes nose and throat irritation. Intentional misuse by deliberately concentrating and inhaling the contents may be harmful or fatal. Contains an ingredient which can cause blood damage. Use only with adequate ventilation. Do not breathe vapor. Ensure fresh air entry during application and drying. Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Wash thoroughly after handling. **First Aid:** In case of contact, immediately flush eyes and skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. If you experience difficulty in breathing, leave the area to obtain fresh air. If continued difficulty is experienced, get medical attention immediately. If swallowed, do not induce vomiting. Get medical attention immediately.

**Keep Out Of Reach Of Children**



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