

Diamond Polished Floor Care

In most situations, truly diamond polished, fully refined, and densified floors are the most scratch-resistant and require the least amount of maintenance, especially in high traffic and/or commercial settings. Please be aware that there is no such thing as a “no maintenance” floor. However, truly diamond polished concrete is very low maintenance.

Diamond polished floors are much more scratch-resistant than other types of concrete flooring. However, they require different cleaners and techniques than sealed/coated floors. Neutral (pH7) cleaners (normally used for sealed/coated floors) will leave a film on diamond polished floors, and could possibly etch your concrete. The wrong pH will cause the diamond polished floor to still appear dirty.

Diamond polished floors without a film-forming sealer will be a higher pH (higher alkaline), and will require a cleaner with a 9.0 to 9.4 pH for proper maintenance and to retain their shine.

There are a number of “stain guards” (some are film-forming, light film-forming and some are non-film-forming). Stain guards are made specifically for diamond polished concrete floors to block pores, resist stains, and make it easier to maintain. These “guards” are not sealers and are created with new technology.

A film-forming stain guard is not as scratch-resistant, but will seal off the pores of the concrete better and may intensify color. A non-film-forming stain guard is much more scratch-resistant and blocks the pores of the concrete. Each of these should be considered for your situation, depending on traffic and its particular use. A film-forming guard will require more burnishing to remove scratches. Whereas, a non-film-forming guard may not change the look of the diamond polished floor but it will maintain a higher level of scratch- resistance, requiring less burnishing.

Basic Maintenance for Diamond Polished Floors:

DRY CLEAN FIRST: Vacuum floor thoroughly to remove all dirt and dust from the floor before attempting any wet cleaning. Scrape all drywall mud, tape, etc., off the floor. Use a concrete vacuum (which has filters to eliminate blow-by). Vacuum, agitate (scrub with broom), vacuum, agitate (multiple times) until there is no dust or dirt present on the surface.

LIFT DIRT EMBEDDED IN PORES: Using plenty of fresh water and a buffer with a black scrubbing pad, scrub the floor thoroughly, following immediately with a squeegee vac to remove the dirt from the floor. Repeat this process until the vacuumed water is clean.

Mop with a 9.0-9.4 pH cleaner. Concrete Perceptions recommends Prosoco LS Klean, created specifically for lithium silicate densified and diamond polished floors. This cleaner is highly concentrated and only requires one ounce of cleaner per gallon of fresh water. This cleaner can be applied by mop or autoscrubber.

If the floor still looks dirty and is not shiny after it is dry, it may need to be dry burnished (1500-2000 rpm) and vacuumed to remove deeply embedded dirt from the pores of the concrete. A diamond-impregnated poly pad can also be used to restore the shine to the floor.

If properly maintained, a fully refined, densified, and diamond polished floor will keep its shine and durability for a lifetime. Here at Concrete Perceptions, we stock all the equipment (rentals) and supplies you need to keep your floors properly maintained.