

Generic steps to install an epoxy floor - see instructions and video for details.

We have used this process extensively to create hundreds of successful garage floor systems for our customers. We understand not all garage floors are the same so not one preparation method will work the same and provide the same results expected from an industrial coating system. However, our instructions are setup for most floor types which includes the preparation process of acid etching. If you have a sealed floor the acid-etch solution will not penetrate so renting a grinder is recommended. Also, if there is a previous failed coating then that too will have to be mechanically removed. Many previously coated floors will have areas that are peeling and some areas that the paint is stuck pretty well. Test those areas that you think the that paint is adhered by placing duct tape over the paint and peel it off. If the paint did not come up with the tape then you should be ok to go over it. If it came off then get yourself more tape and go to town removing it if you don't want to rent a grinder. It can be effective and inexpensive but very time consuming.

Besides the preparation method the application process for most systems are the same or at least similar. If you are comfortable installing another way feel free to do so. Just make sure to read the product data sheets for curing times, recoat times, and pot life data.

#### Day/Step One

Prepare floor as described in the instructions. Allow to dry completely before continuing to day/step two.

#### Day/Step Two

Sweep/blow out garage. Repair any cracks, Pitts, or fill expansion joist if desired. Allow to setup for at least 1 hour depending on amount of repairs needed. Primer can be applied over crack repair material, just make sure you don't step in it while applying primer. Apply penetrating epoxy primer. With a properly prepared floor this primer will actually wick into the concrete so the appearance of the finished floor may look dull and uneven. Again, not all substrates are the same so not all floors will look the same. Allow primer to dry, and then apply the epoxy build coat. Primer dries relatively fast, generally 4-6 hours or sooner, so this step is often done the same day as epoxy and chips, if using chip flakes. The primer coat and build coat will bond together as they cure if build coat is applied soon after primer is dry (within a 24 hour period). Once build coat is down apply the decorative chip flakes if using. Also, if you do have to wait more than 24 hours it is highly recommended to scuff the floor with sandpaper, and then wipe it down before applying build coat in order to ensure proper adhesion. When epoxy cures, it has a glass like finish. If primer is applied real thin and the floor still has somewhat of a profile then sanding is not always necessary. Better safe than sorry; inspect entire floor and hit those glass like areas if really shiny.

#### Day/Step Three

Sweep/blow out garage to remove any loose flakes or dust before top coating. If applied at recommend spread rates there will not be any loose flakes and the profile will have a texture. Floor should be smooth with just a slight texture from the chips. Once swept off apply clear top coat if using.

*We adopted a three step system instead of just looking at it as a three day system. These steps can be changed-up to fit your time budget. However, they still have to be chronologically completed as laid-out. Example of this is step two can be spilt and the build coat can be complete at the beginning of step three and the top coating can be completed same day as long as it is dry. Temperature and other conditions will change dry times. The cooler the temperature the longer the dry times.*