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LUXAPOOL® EPOXY POOL COATING APPLICATION GUIDE

PEBBLECRETE SURFACE POOLS

1. Following specific cleaning and priming procedures, stable Pebblecrete pool surfaces may be refurbished with **Luxapool Epoxy Finish**. Application of such however will not change the typical 'surface texture' associated with pebblecrete surfaces. This 'surface texture' may be minimised by use of alternative intermediate coating options. Contact colormaker Industries for specific details.

2. Initially inspect all of the pebblecrete surface carefully for soundness. If any evidence of loose pebbles, or 'drummy areas' is found, the surface is must not be coating over before these are repaired. Drummy areas of pebblecrete must be removed and repaired using Luxapool 'SEF' Special Epoxy Filler or similar epoxy mortar available at most building supply/hardware stores. Loose stones may be re-adhered using immersion grade tile adhesive, or repaired as per 'drummy areas' above.

Caution: Painting over less than secure Pebblecrete will likely result in localised coating failure.

3. Empty the pool and, using a stiff brush or broom, scrub the entire surface with diluted **Corroclean** [mixed at a ratio of 100 grams to 10 litres of warm water]. This removes contaminants such as sun creams, oils, body fats, greases, etc before any other procedures are undertaken. Pay particular attention to step areas and corners where oil accumulation may occur. Upon completion, thoroughly rinse the pool with clean water.

4. Inspect the surface closely focusing on the cementitious 'valleys' between the pebbles. If any evidence of algae/black spot still exists, broom down with normal laundry bleach (2% available chlorine), allow 5 minutes contact, then flush again with fresh water. Allow to dry thoroughly. The above is critical to the successful outcome of epoxy coatings.

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PAINTING THE POOL

1. Prior to painting, check the weather forecast. Three consecutive rain free days are ideal for the painting process. Defer painting if rain is expected. The presence of rain during the painting process may discolour the coating or cause paint failure.

2. It is best to apply the paint between 8 am and 11 am. *Do not apply later than this time as evening dew can cause water spotting or blooming, which will affect the adhesion of the paint causing failure.* **Apply only between the temperatures of 10°C and 30°C, but do not paint in direct, mid summer sun.** In mid summer paint as early as possible in the day, and then ideally protect the coating from direct sunlight by shading. This is particularly important in the first 3 > 6 hours of cure. Painting outside of this temperature range and without shade control can damage the coating.

3. Apply **Luxapool Epoxy Primer Sealer** as the first coat of the system. Keep the product cool before, and during use as excess heat diminishes working life. Coverage is approximately 20-25m^2 per 4 ltr kit. Add Part B to a solvent resistant plastic or metal container of at least 5 litres capacity then add all of Part A. **NEVER ALTER THE MIX QUANTITY OR USE PART CANS.** M**ix thoroughly** with a clean, **flat stirring stick** or the stirrer provided. Allow 5-10 minutes reaction time, remix and then start to apply immediately. Apply by roller as per the instructions for the finishing coats shown below. Refer the technical data sheet for additional details. Allow to cure for 12-24 hrs to reach 'trafficable stage'. Apply the initial finish coat within 24 hours otherwise sanding/wire brushing of the surface must be undertaken with removal of dust etc before proceeding.

4. **Prepare for the finish coat application**. Check that batch numbers on all Part A are identical. Make sure that all Part B cans are either all summer or all winter cure activity. This is to ensure a uniformity of colour on your pool. Record the batch number, found on the lid, side or bottom of every Part A can.

5. Add Part B to Part A base and **mix thoroughly** with a clean, **flat stirring stick** or the stirrer provided. Allow to 5-10 minutes 'digestion period', then remix as before. *Failure to mix the two parts thoroughly will result in the paint not curing properly*. *Paint that is still wet and tacky after 4-6 hours has not been mixed correctly and it will not cure. Consult Colormaker Industries.* Mix only one pack at a time and apply within one hour. Coverage of **Luxapool Epoxy Pool Coating** is approximately 16-20 m^2 per 3.5 L pack per coat dependant on surface quality. Keep paint cool before and during use as excess heat diminishes workable pot-life. Ensure that Part A and Part B cans are kept cool prior to mixing. Do not adjust mixing ratios of Part A to Part B components. **ALWAYS MIX AND USE WHOLE PACKS**. **NEVER USE PART PACKS**.

WARNING: do not add any substances to Luxapool Epoxy Pool Coating as any addition will result in loss of optimum performance. USE ONLY AS INSTRUCTED.

6. Apply by roller. Cut in at the tile line with a brush. Do not apply **Luxapool Epoxy Finish at** more than 20 m2 per 3.5 L pack**.** When applying allow the painted area to "stand" for approximately 10-15 minutes after application. If small bubbles appear during this "standing" phase they can be eliminated by ***lightly*** draping a wet roller (not loaded) over the surface.

It is important to only lightly touch the paint surface. This bursts the bubbles allowing the resulting crater to flow and re-form into a uniform film. Only practice this technique if there are many bubbles on the surface and only within the first 10-15 minutes of painting. The existence of these bubbles is due to entrapment of air within the surface (once painted). The bubbles rise due to expansion from heat. This can be minimised greatly by utilising a protective shade-cloth. The occurrence of these bubbles is also affected by surface type and texture. Avoiding all bubbles is impossible, however minimising their numbers is achievable.6. The pool requires a minimum of two coats of Luxapool, and preferably three, in order to achieve a minimum dry film thickness of 450 microns. Achieving the correct total dry film thickness is critical to long-term durability of the finished coating. An average size pool (10m x 5m) requires approximately 6-7 packs of Luxapool Epoxy Coating per coat.

7. After application of the first coat, allow 24 hours curing time prior to applying the second coat. **Any milky discolouration (bloom) caused by unpredicted rain, evening dew, or high humidity, should be thoroughly removed by abrading with a medium-grade sanding paper (40-60 grit) prior to application of the second coat.** ALWAYS paint within 24 hours of the previous coat. **If more than 24 hours has elapsed between coats it is necessary to lightly abrade the entire pool surface to a dull finish prior to recoating**. Remove all sanding dust prior to application of the epoxy.

8. The longer a pool is allowed to dry prior to filling the better the ultimate coating quality and longevity. ALWAYS allow the coating to dry **at least 7 DAYS IN SUMMER,** and **14 DAYS IN WINTER,** prior to filling the pool. If a coating has not had adequate drying time and is filled prematurely its colour will be damaged. This is seen as cloudy, uneven colour distribution on the last coat. DO NOT add chemicals for at least 3-5 days.

9. Stable pool chemistry determines the longevity of the epoxy coating. Fluctuating pool chemistry **will** damage your epoxy coating. **For best results maintain pH between 7.4 & 7.8 and maintain Total Alkalinity in the range 140-160 ppm**. **Calcium hardness should ideally be 280 ppm – 320 ppm, and at the high end for darker colours. Keep chlorine levels at a minimum** 2ppm is normally satisfactory for domestic pools. Excessively high chlorine levels will degrade your coating. **Minimise the use of acid.** Poor pool chemistry maintenance will accelerate chalking and degradation of the epoxy coating.

10. Once the pool has been filled it is important to maintain the surface. Brushing down your pool every 4-6 weeks will maintain a coating of good integrity and improve longevity. Refer Colormaker Industries for additional advice.

11. Application at very low temperatures can result in imperfect cure, and accelerated chalking of the coating. It is best to apply the coating during spring, summer and autumn.

LUXAPOOL FACTS SHEET

Luxapool Swimming Pool Epoxy Coating is a high performance product, however there are certain characteristics associated with *all* epoxy coatings. Your awareness of these will assist you in understanding your epoxy pool coating. These are;

1. CHALKING

Chalking is a natural weathering process of an epoxy coating. Chalking is apparent as a fine powdery deposit on the paint surface. Intensity of chalking is dependent upon pool chemistry stability, water type, light intensity and overall stability of the water conditions to which the epoxy coating is subjected. Chalking is accelerated by a deposition of soluble salts from the water onto the coating surface and by unstable pool chemistry. We recommend a pH of 7.4-7.8 and a Total Alkalinity (minimum) of 140-160 ppm for minimising chalking. High chlorine levels also affect chalking. Keep chlorine levels to a minimum. Regular brushing, followed by at least 8 hours of filtration, will minimise chalking levels and maintain your pools coating in good condition.

Chalking is also accelerated by application at low temperatures. It is recommended that care be taken when applying during winter months. All epoxy colours chalk however darker colours appear more noticeable as the colour in the paint stains hands and feet.

2. BLOOMING

Bloom occurs when water, or free moisture, is present on the epoxy surface during its initial curing phase. It results in a fine, often white, powdery deposit that appears on the epoxy surface within the first few days of curing. The moisture can be present in the form of rain, dew or even high humidity. All the bloom must be thoroughly removed by abrasion with medium grade sandpaper prior to recoating. Any bloom present between coats will result in delamination of one coat from the other.

3. BLISTERING

Blistering is the result of poor application techniques. Blistering is caused by painting over a moist surface, painting under high temperature conditions (over 30 C), painting over a surface that has been curing for longer than 24 hours or painting over a surface that has been improperly prepared. Blistering will ultimately result in cracking and peeling of the epoxy coating.

4. STAINING

Stains occasionally appear within the pool coating, commonly yellow in colour, as a result of excess amine (hardener) leaching to the surface of the coating. This staining can occur about one month after the painting is completed. The stain will gradually disappear as the pool chalks. This will take approximately 2-3 months during summer and 3-4 months during winter.