Grace Top-Cast®
Top-Surface Retarder for Decorative Concrete

Description
Grace Top-Cast® is a water-based top-surface retarder. It does not require covering with plastic for protection. It is available in 11 depths of etch, each colour and number coded for safety and convenience.

Applications
Ideal for poured-in-place flatwork and the top surface of precast panels. The wide selection of grades available provides a comprehensive range of effects, from a simulated light acid wash or sand blast finish up to full exposure of 32 mm aggregate.

Advantages
• Comprehensive range of etch depths
• Excellent depth of etch control
• Colour coded products
• Heavily pigmented for ease of application
• Excellent coverage rates
• Solvent free, odourless
• Heat resistance up to 65°C

Product Function
Each product grade creates a unique degree of reaction to produce the desired effect on the surface mortar. The retarding chemicals diffuse into the paste during the first hours of curing, and slow down the cement hydration reaction. During the next 16+ hours of curing, the bulk concrete hardens, except where the cement matrix has been retarded. The retarded surface is then removed by water or pressurised water, revealing the aggregate in the concrete mix.

Application Information
Always prepare small test panels to determine the most suitable grade to obtain the desired depth of etch. When pouring test samples, always simulate job site conditions as well as mix designs to be used on the project to establish the proper grade selection and procedures.

Application
In preparation for pouring of concrete, protect all curbs, borders, adjacent stones, pavers, etc. with a coat of Pieri® Face Off. Allow coating to dry before pouring concrete. Pour concrete and float or trowel finish.

Grace Top-Cast Grade Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stone Size</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acid Etch</td>
<td>03 Light Violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Blast</td>
<td>05 Powder Blue Violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to 6.5 mm</td>
<td>15 Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 to 9.5 mm</td>
<td>50 Canary Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 to 16 mm</td>
<td>125 Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 25 mm</td>
<td>200 Salmon</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* 255 kg/m³ of cement
Shake well before application. Apply Grace Top-Cast uniformly to the wet concrete after the initial bleed water rises to the surface. Spray with a low-pressure sprayer (plastic preferred) until the surface has a complete hiding coat. Do not apply too sparingly. Use water for clean up. Once dry (i.e. 1–2 hours after application), Grace Top-Cast provides excellent protection against intermittent rain.

**Removal**
The retarded cement matrix is normally washed away the next day, using high-pressure water.

When using certain mix designs, especially in warmer temperatures, it may be necessary to remove the retarded matrix the same day for best results, particularly when using the lightest etches.

**Coverage Rates**
Grace Top-Cast will cover approximately 4.3–7.4 m²/L.

**Packaging**
Grace Top-Cast is available 20L and 208L plastic containers.

**Health & Safety**
All precautions defined on the Material Safety Data Sheet for Grace Top-Cast must be followed.

**Storage**
Grace Top-Cast has a shelf life of one year from date of manufacture, in closed original container.

**Shipping Classification**
Paint, water-based, non-hazardous material.