



D-ACTIVATOR

Exposed Aggregate Surface Deactivator

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Deco-Crete D-Activator makes exposed aggregate finishes easier and more consistent than ever before. It is typically applied to freshly placed concrete to prevent the cement paste from fully hardening to achieve more controlled exposed aggregate finishes. Unlike sugar-based retarders with uncertain levels of retardation, D-Activator selectively halts the hydration process down to a controlled depth. Five predetermined depths of exposure are available, numbered and color-coded for quick and easy identification. Providing consistent, repeatable cement-paste removal and aggregate reveal. Because D-Activator provides a longer window before the surface paste must be removed, it allows underlying concrete to harden properly, locking in aggregate and reducing pop-outs. D-Activator is water-soluble for easy removal with high-pressure water washing and scrubbing equipment.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- + Coverage 150 Sq. Ft. Per Gallon
- + Color Color-Coded
- + Freeze Point 32° F (0° C)
- + Clean-Up Water

RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS

- + Pool Decks
- + Driveways
- + Sidewalks
- + Patios
- + Porches



QUICK FACTS

- + Controlled, Repeatable Exposure Depth
- + Film Forming and Quick Drying Formula
- + Available In 5 Predetermined Depths
- + Exposure Depths Numbered and Color-Coded
- + Vibrant Colors Assist In Uniform Coverage
- + Solvent-Free, Water-Soluble
- + VOC-Compliant



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

A job-site sample is highly recommended.

MIX DESIGN

It is recommended to consult with your local redi-mix plant to determine the best aggregate available for your project. Concrete admixtures that affect set times could alter the performance of D-Activator and should be included in job-site samples to assess the overall workability and performance. **THE USE OF CALCIUM CHLORIDE IS NOT RECOMMENDED.**

FINISHING

Use a Fresno and Steel Trowel to finish the surface. Finishing should be performed as if you were going to broom or stamp the concrete. It is important to hit all areas of the slab such as edges and wall lines with steel finishing tools. The lighter the exposure, the more important it is to have a flat finish. Creating a flat surface with minimal trowel marks or ridges is crucial as these could show through in the final product.

APPLICATION

D-Activator should be applied as soon as the finishing process is done. D-Activator will only stop hydration of the surface from the time of application forward. If the concrete begins setting before D-Activator is applied, it cannot reverse the setting that has already taken place. A job-site sample is highly recommended. Using a drill mixer, thoroughly agitate D-Activator before pouring into the sprayer. Pour D-Activator into a heavy-duty sprayer. Keep the sprayer at optimized pressure levels to enable even distribution. Spray apply to concrete, holding the sprayer tip 12"– 14" above the concrete surface. The color of D-Activator may be used as a visual aid to ensure the surface has uniform coverage as determined in the approved job-site sample.

REMOVAL

Once concrete is ready for foot traffic, usually between 2 – 4 hours after D-Activator application. Utilizing a high-pressure washer and/or a low-speed buffing machine with medium stiffness bristle brush attachment, wet the surface down with water and immediately start to scrub with buffer. Follow the buffer machine with a high-pressure washer, rinsing off paste and removing any residual material left behind from buffer. Continue rinsing until all paste material has been removed. A final cleaning with Deco-Crete Deco-Prep diluted 1:8 with water (1 part Deco-Prep, 8 parts water) is recommended to remove any latent residue. If the Deco-Prep wash is performed after the day of paste removal, a stronger dilution may be required. Rinse surface until completely clean. *Fresh concrete can be damaged easily. Take great care when using a pressure washer, paying particular attention to the distance from the surface.*



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SEALING

It is highly recommended to allow the concrete to fully cure before applying any sealer. *Deco-Crete D-One Sealer* is recommended for most applications. Alternatively, if a slight amber color is desired, *Deco-Crete Browntone Tint* or *Deco-Crete Decostone Browntone 30* is also available. See data sheets for full instructions on applying Deco-Crete Sealers.

PRO TIPS

+ It is crucial to use a sprayer that is capable of building and maintaining enough pressure to spray D-Activator in a uniform fashion. The *Chapin Xtreme Stainless Steel Sprayer (Model #19069)* is recommended. Use a 1 GPM or *Deco-Crete Tee Jet Nozzle (DC# 1863)* for optimal flow.

+ When spraying D-Activator, utilize the vibrant colors of the product as a visual aid to ensure proper coverage. When applied properly, none of the concrete surface should be visible through D-Activator's opaque coverage.

+ For larger areas that would require walking on the concrete to spray D-Activator, shoe-in flats must be worn to minimize marks or dips in the surface.

+ Concrete slabs sprayed with D-Activator do not need to be covered with plastic in most cases. However, during extreme hot, windy, cold, or rainy weather conditions, covering the slab may be beneficial to maintain moisture, protect from rain damage, or maintain heat. D-Activator must be fully dry to the touch before covering with plastic.

+ It is recommended to organize your project in a fashion that would allow you to pour in the morning and remove/wash later that same day. Especially during hotter times of the year, try to avoid pouring at a time of day that would require waiting until the following day to remove/wash D-Activator from the slab.

+ Use *Deco-Crete Integral Color* for added coloring options.

It is always recommended to perform a test slab for every project using the same mix design and D-Activator level to test for desired final outcome.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

+ **Storage:** Do not allow D-Activator to freeze

+ **Packaging:** 5-Gallon Pails

+ **Shelf Life:** One year from Manufacture Date



For tutorials and even more decorative concrete content, check out our YouTube channel by scanning the QR code, or check out our other social media accounts listed here.

