

# PREPARATION OF SUPPORTS:

## THE 3 KEY POINTS TO CHECK

The adhesion of a decorative 'polished concrete' coating depends largely on the quality of the surface preparation, and therefore on the prior diagnosis. Here are the different ways to carry it out. A good surface must be hard, stable, adherent, and clean.

### HARDNESS

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#### How to check the hardness of a support?

The support must be hard and strong to avoid cracking and any subsequent detachment



Check the surface hardness of the substrate by scratching it with a sharp metal tool in several places. The scratch must be superficial.



Also check the hardness throughout the thickness in the case of old screeds (under-dosed, burnt screed, etc.). The screed must be cohesive



If the support is not hard enough, it must be removed to restore a healthy support.

### GRIP

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#### How to check that the existing topcoat is holding up well?

When it is to be preserved, the old coating must be adherent to avoid any subsequent peeling.



**Glued or sealed coverings :** Check the adhesion of old tiles or rigid slabs by probing with a hammer or spatula.



It is necessary to remove or re-glue (in the case of tiling) any hollow-sounding part.

**Paint :**

To check the adhesion of a paint, perform the grid test by cutting the paint with a knife or cutter.



Form small squares of 2 x 2 mm on a total surface of 10 x 10 cm

The paint is considered adherent if 80% of the small tiles are adherent. If this is not the case, it is necessary to remove the paint by sanding or stripping.

## CLEANLINESS

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**How to clean and prepare the surface?**

The surface must be clean to allow the polished concrete to adhere.

**Traces of plaster**

Remove any traces of plaster using a painter's knife. Dust thoroughly and then apply the appropriate primer.

**Traces of glue:**

Remove traces of glue so that they no longer form a film; only a residual surface color may remain. Dust carefully. On acrylic or neoprene glue residue, then apply the appropriate primer.

**Varnishes, waxes, paints**

Remove varnish or wax by sanding or scraping. Dust thoroughly. Wash off paint and allow to dry. Then apply the appropriate primer.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND WARNINGS

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