

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

Create An Outdoor Oasis

(NAPSA)—You can transform ordinary concrete into inviting living spaces with the multicolored appearance of natural stone. Available in a variety of colors and resulting in a low-gloss finish, semi-transparent concrete stains enhance the natural variations and unique textures of concrete, and protect interior and exterior surfaces from damage.

In outdoor applications, semi-transparent concrete stains are excellent for adding intrigue and durability to driveways, patios, pool decks and walkways around the home.

Possibilities with Color

With inspiration behind each color, Quikrete Semi-Transparent Concrete Stain is available in 29 long-lasting, decorative color options, including Aqua Stone, Blue Alloy, Burnished Gold, Cheyenne Rock, New England Slate and Olive Shade.

Homeowners can create a warm-weather oasis for entertainment with colors such as Tuscan Sunset or a subdued, stylish retreat for relaxation using colors such as Tranquil Pool. These shades can even be mixed on the concrete surfaces for beautifully blended variations.

The possibilities are limited only by your imagination.

How-to Hints

- Careful preparation of the concrete surface is essential to ensure the stain can properly bond with the surface. Therefore, the surface must be cleared of all debris, sealers and paints.

- Following the application instructions on the packaging, use Quikrete Bond-Lok cleaner,



Homeowners can take the plunge into having a beautiful patio or pool area with the help of colorful, easy-to-use concrete stains.

degreaser and etcher to remove grease and oil and etch the surface all in one easy step.

- Prior to staining, protect all areas not being stained with painter's tape and plastic.

- Dampen the entire surface to be stained; avoid standing water.

- Adjust the pattern of the pump sprayer to fine spray and begin spraying in a circular manner.

- Spray the stain in small, 4-by-4-foot areas and work quickly to maintain a wet edge. Do not let the stain puddle on the surface.

- Allow the surface to dry for 18 to 24 hours before light foot traffic and 72 hours before heavy use.

- A 10-by-20-foot patio would cost about \$40.

This entire project can be completed in a weekend—resulting in old concrete being transformed into a beautiful new space ready for enjoyment.

Learn More

For additional project ideas, visit www.quikrete.com.