



ARDEX CG Concrete Guard™

High-Performance, Waterborne Acrylic Concrete Sealer

High-performance, waterborne acrylic concrete sealer

Seals and protects uncoated, absorbent concrete and masonry surfaces

Easy to apply and quick drying

Nonflammable and UV stable

USDA/FDA compliant

Exceeds ADA requirements

Durable and abrasion resistant

For exterior or interior use

Available in Clear or Gray

ARDEX Engineered Cements
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ARDEX CG Concrete Guard™

High-Performance, Waterborne Acrylic Concrete Sealer

Description and Usage

ARDEX CG Concrete Guard™ is a high-performance, high solids concrete sealer that is easy to apply, quick drying, nonflammable and UV stable. Applied at a minimum of two coats, ARDEX CG is designed to protect all interior and exterior absorbent concrete and masonry surfaces on residential and commercial applications, including driveways, sidewalks, patios, courtyards, walkways, pool decks and most vertical concrete surfaces. It is especially suited to seal ARDEX toppings, and the gray version can be used to create a uniform appearance over both a repaired area and the adjacent concrete or masonry surfaces.

ARDEX CG is durable and abrasion resistant. When applied properly, ARDEX CG creates a non-porous coating approved for incidental food contact that will perform well under a daily regimen of thorough cleaning as well as under cyclical temperature changes and wet conditions.

Substrate Preparation

All substrates must be structurally sound and solid. In order for the ARDEX CG to obtain a solid bond, the concrete or masonry surface must be clean and absorbent. Mechanically remove any form release, sealers or paints, dust, dirt, oils or any other contaminant that could act as a bond breaker by shot blasting or similar. All patching and leveling compounds, except for those approved by ARDEX, must be removed by mechanical means. High-pressure (5000 psi) power washing may also be used to remove dust, dirt and debris, though the concrete must then be allowed to dry thoroughly before proceeding. Overwatered, frozen or otherwise weak concrete surfaces must also be cleaned down to sound, solid concrete by mechanical methods. Acid etching, adhesive removers, solvents and sweeping compounds are not acceptable means of cleaning the substrate. The use of sanding equipment is not an effective method to remove curing and sealing compounds.

Please note that when removing existing flooring, any asbestos-containing materials should be handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable federal, state and local regulations.

For more detailed information on substrate preparation, please refer to the ARDEX Substrate Preparation Brochure at www.ardexamericas.com.

Recommended Tools

Nylon brush, 3/8" nap paint roller, or airless, HVLP or conventional spray equipment, mechanical mixing paddle and a low speed drill.

Mixing and Application

Due to the high percentage of solids, settling will occur during storage. For this reason, the contents of the container must be mixed thoroughly just prior to use to ensure a uniform consistency. For best results, mix with a mechanical mixing paddle and low speed drill.

Once the concrete surface is prepared as outlined above, thoroughly broom-sweep and vacuum the area to be sealed to remove any fine dust or dirt. Make sure the concrete is completely dry to avoid the possibility of performance issues and discoloration. Tape or otherwise mask off areas that are not to be sealed. A minimum of two coats should be applied, allowing 2 to 4 hours drying time (depending on ambient atmospheric conditions) before placing the second coat.

Pour the ARDEX CG into a paint tray, and apply the sealer to the surface with a 3/8" nap paint roller. Do not pour the sealer directly onto the concrete surface. When spraying ARDEX CG, back rolling is recommended to prevent puddles. Use appropriate personal protection measures when applying by airless, HVLP or other spray equipment. ARDEX CG can also be applied with a nylon paintbrush for hard to reach areas, such as along joints and in corners. Allow the first coat to dry for a minimum of 2 hours at 70°F (21°C) surface and air temperatures before applying the second coat. Allow ARDEX CG to dry 24 hours for foot traffic and 72 hours for heavy foot (malls, amusement parks, etc.) and rubber-wheeled traffic.

When applying ARDEX CG outdoors, do not proceed if rain, dew, fog or extremely high humidity is expected within 6 to 8 hours of application, or if freezing temperatures could occur within 24 hours. Do not apply ARDEX CG if surface and air temperatures are under 50°F (10°C) or over 90°F (32°C). Cool ambient and surface temperatures will slow drying time. Install quickly if the substrate is warm, and follow warm weather instructions available from the ARDEX Technical Service Department.

For interior applications of ARDEX CG where aesthetic qualities are critical, concrete substrate moisture levels must not exceed 75% RH. Due to the potential for high moisture vapor to cause the ARDEX CG to appear cloudy, substrates with a higher RH must be moisture mitigated using the appropriate ARDEX MC™ Moisture Control System.

Care and Maintenance of ARDEX CG Concrete Guard™ Sealer

Note: By routinely cleaning your floor properly, you will maximize its performance, appearance, and slip resistance.

Please note that this maintenance guide is for the use of ARDEX CG over interior ARDEX toppings. For the maintenance of other ARDEX finishes, please visit www.ardexamericas.com.

Please visit www.ardexamericas.com for technical data sheets, technical updates, specifications and SDS sheets.

Sacrificial Wax: For interior applications, especially those that must retain a certain aesthetic value, it is recommended that several layers of a sacrificial floor wax be used over the ARDEX CG Concrete Guard™ High-Performance, Waterborne Acrylic Concrete Sealer to minimize the effects of staining and wear. Follow the wax manufacturer's installation, usage and maintenance instructions.

Where mark removers, cleaners and degreasers will be used, they must be installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Please note that the recommendation below is detailed for an ARDEX CG installation where a sacrificial wax has not been used.

On-site test areas should be done to assure compatibility and selected aesthetic appearances prior to proceeding.

Recommended Cleaning Tools

Mechanical Scrubbers (floor machines): Self-contained mechanical scrubbers are the most efficient and cost-effective method. Pay particular attention to the type of cleaning pad being used. The abrasive pad should not mark the surface of the floor. A high-quality, functioning mechanical scrubber with a viable vacuum extraction system should be employed. All residual, standing water must be completely removed.

Spray Cleaning/Power Washers: In most cases, power washing is combined with chemical cleaning. Hot water under pressure may be insufficient to emulsify oils and grease. Consideration should be given to power washing and scrubbing with a suitable chemical. Always follow the chemical manufacturer's instructions for the use of any chemical.

Brooms, Squeegees and Mops: For routine floor maintenance, the use of a broom, squeegee or damp mop with water, only, will provide effective cleaning of superficial contaminants. Remove all residual, standing water from the surface of the floor.

Maintenance

When to Clean Your Floors: How often you need to clean your floor depends on the type of contaminants to which the floor is exposed. Frequent cleaning is recommended for optimum performance.

The more harsh the environment, the more frequently you should clean your floors. Dust and dirt will dull and wear the finish if not removed on a regular basis.

Chemical spills such as battery acids, phosphoric acids, dyes, iodine, etc., in many cases, may stain or damage the floor. We recommend cleaning chemical spills immediately.

Daily Cleaning and Maintenance Procedure

A. Once the system is fully cured, routinely **sweep, dry mop and wash** with neutral pH cleaners and water. Spot clean and dry areas of concentrated traffic as needed. The use of dry, microfiber dust mops is recommended because they attract dust and dirt and remove these abrading elements up and away from the floor. For optimal performance, use one, continuous motion with overlapping strokes. Frequently shake the mop to remove dust and dirt.

B. The **use of abrasive brushes or pads is not recommended** as part of a daily maintenance program. The use of mechanical cleaning devices such as auto scrubbers and swing buffers should be employed as needed. All mechanical cleaning devices must have the ability to remove all residual ponding water and cleaning agents.

C. **DO NOT USE cleaners that are acidic**, have citrus (de-limonene) or butyl compounds. The application of highly acidic cleaners may etch or stain the surface and reduce the ability of the floor to resist absorption. On-site test areas of the selected cleaner should be done to assure compatibility.

Reapplication: For applications where a sacrificial wax layer has not been applied / maintained, it will be necessary to evaluate the ARDEX CG periodically to assess its ability to repel staining agents. Reapply ARDEX CG as necessary and in accordance with the technical data sheet for optimum performance.

Notes

- Due to varying traffic frequency, timetables for the above procedures must be adjusted to fit the needs of the space.
- Localized traffic patterns may require more frequent application of the above recommendations.

General Guidelines:

Protecting the Floor from Construction Trades and Move-In

Please note that the installation of an ARDEX surface should be the last step in the construction process. Other trades should not be working in or around an ARDEX installation without proper protection of the ARDEX surface. Once the floor has fully cured, the newly-installed ARDEX surface should be protected from spills, dirt and debris with a temporary, breathable floor protection such as roll-out fiber board.

Additionally, if the floor will receive excess traffic during a move-in, protection from rolling carts, dollies, racks, gondolas, register wraps, etc. must be planned and implemented. Protection might include placing temporary "roving plywood" on top of the temporary, breathable floor protection such as roll-out fiber board to prevent gouging and indentation of the completed floor installation. Where "roving plywood" is used, it should be removed daily.

Tape: Do not use tape (duct, masking, painters, blue, etc.) in direct contact with ARDEX floors as it can damage the sealed surface upon removal. Spot taping overlapped breathable floor protection such as roll-out fiber board to itself is suitable for this temporary application.

Chair Pads: To avoid marring of the ARDEX wear surface, use felt pads on all areas of chairs and furniture that will come into contact with the floor.

Walk-off Mats: Mats outside doorways and inside entryways will control most of the dirt and debris that would otherwise be tracked inside. Walk-off mats should have sufficient texture to remove dirt from shoes. Non-rubber backed or open-back style mats will allow the floor to breathe.

Moving Furniture and Equipment: Do not drag or slide equipment or furniture over the surface. Where furniture or equipment cannot be lifted and carried or where felt furniture sliders or pads will not be used, a temporary, breathable floor protection such as roll-out fiber board may be placed over the floor. Rubber-wheeled carts or dollies may also be used.

Miscellaneous: Use a plate or other moisture-catching foundation beneath potted plants. Use a breathable pad underneath the plate to prevent trapped moisture from damaging the finish.

Use smooth-sided plastic mats below office chairs or other recurring, wheeled traffic. The constant abrasion of the wheels will scrape and damage the surface over time.

Please note that hot tire pickup may damage the floor. Allow heated tires to cool prior to parking them on the ARDEX CG surface. Tires should not be permitted on the installation until it has fully cured for 72 hours.

Notes

FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY.

ARDEX CG is intended for sealing and protecting interior and exterior concrete subject to foot and rubber-wheeled traffic. ARDEX CG is not intended for uses such as heavy manufacturing or areas with heavy truck traffic. Do not use in fountains, swimming pools or any areas that will be permanently submerged. Do not mix with cement or additives. Observe the basic rules of concrete work.

Always install an adequate number of properly located test areas to determine the suitability and aesthetic value of the products for the intended use.

When not in use, keep the container tightly sealed. Open, remix and reseal as necessary. Store the container at room temperature (50°F to 90°F/10°C to 32°C). Protect from freezing and extreme heat. If the container is exposed to freezing temperatures and appears congealed or stringy, do not use. Contact the ARDEX Technical Service Department for more information.

Precautions

Carefully read and follow all precautions and warnings on the product label. For complete safety information, please refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) available at www.ardexamericas.com.

Stain Resistance

REAGENT	NON-ABRADED ARDEX CG	ABRADED ARDEX CG
Ammonia Solution (5%)	2	2
Chlorine Solution (10%)	2	2
Diesel Fuel	2	2
Gasoline	2	2
Heavy-Duty Detergent Solution	1	1
Hydraulic Fluids	3	3
Kerosene	2	2
Lubricating Oil	1	1
Muratic Acid (10%)	1	1
Paint Thinner	1	1
Prestone® Antifreeze Coolant	2	2
Salt Solution (20%)	1	1
Soap Solution (1%)	1	1
Sulfuric Acid (3%)	2	3
Sulfuric Acid (Concentrated)	2	3
Toluene	1	2
Transformer Oil	1	1
Turpentine	1	2

1= Unaffected

2= Superficial Effect

3= Considerable Effect

*Effects are evaluated after 24 hours of exposure.

Technical Data According To ARDEX Quality Standards

Physical properties are typical values and not specifications.

VOC Content: Max. 249 g/L – Calculated and Reported SCAQMD 1113

Solids Content: 40%

S.C.O.F (ASTM C1028) Smooth surface profile: 0.60 - 0.70
Medium-to-coarse surface profile: 0.88 - 0.90

Cleanup: Clean up with water when wet.

USDA/FDA FSIS Directive 1000.4, Revision 1:

Approved

Drying Time (minimum at 70°F/21°C): To touch: 1 hour

Apply second coat: 2 to 4 hours

Receive normal traffic: 24 hours

Colors: Gray and Clear

Coverage for Gray:
Over broom finish: 150-200 sq. ft. (14-18.5 sq. m) per gallon
Over smooth finish: 200-400 sq. ft. (18.5-37 sq. m) per gallon

Coverage for Clear:
Over broom finish: 200-300 sq. ft. (19-28 sq. m) per gallon
Over smooth finish: 400-600 sq. ft. (37-56 sq. m) gallon

Packaging: 1 Gallon / 3.79 L Container

Storage: Store in a cool dry area. Do not expose container to sun. Keep from heat. Protect from freezing. Keep container closed when not in use.

Shelf Life: 1 year, if unopened

Warranty: ARDEX Engineered Cements Standard Limited Warranty applies.

Made in the USA

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Updated 5-22-2017. Supersedes all previous versions. Check www.ardexamericas.com for updates.

AT144 E (06/30/2017)

Visit www.youtube.com/ARDEX101 to watch ARDEX Americas product videos. For easy-to-use ARDEX Product Calculators and Product Information On the Go, download the ARDEX App at the iTunes Store or Google Play.



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