

GYPSUM.

CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Characteristics - Use and maintenance

CONCRETE

This is a new, advanced form of high-performance concrete with subtle, refined qualities that give this ancient building material a new expressive language. Colour is combined with cement in an organic and gentle relationship. This characteristic, together with the refinement of the surface finish, distances the traditional perception of a raw material and gives concrete a precious dimension. This concrete is suitable for public and private clients and for both indoor and outdoor applications.

TECHNICAL AND AESTHETIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MATERIAL

High-performance concrete for architecture and design. It is washable, resistant to dirt, chemical aggression, salt mist and freeze-thaw cycles.

The products are made from natural materials (cement, aggregates, iron oxides and additives), using a completely artisanal and ecological production cycle: the cement is mixed by hand and poured into moulds, then cured and finished on its surface.

The result is a unique handcrafted product, characterised by the following features:

Colouring

Concrete is coloured by adding natural oxides to the mix. The use of these pigments makes it possible to obtain products with a UV-resistant colouring that will be stable over time, even after years of use both indoors and outdoors.

Shade variation

Concrete may show a “shade variation”, i.e. visible and non-homogeneous colour differences between the elements of a finished product. There can be shade variation even on a single piece. This is a peculiar characteristic of this material and part of its intrinsic beauty. It depends on many uncontrollable factors (raw materials, atmospheric conditions, etc.), which together contribute to the uniqueness of each piece.

Microcavities

The surface of the concrete might have small cavities, generated during the pouring of the material into the mould and randomly arranged, especially on the vertical portions. These cavities, both outdoors and indoors, might fill with water, creating darker areas until they dry, without compromising the aesthetic and technical characteristics of the product.

Tolerances

The production cycle and the nature of the material necessarily generate dimensional differences (even on mass-produced products), which must be assessed according to the artefact and the type of application. These tolerances are not to be considered a defect, but rather a distinctive feature of the cement.

CLEANING

Common household stains (coffee, oil, wine, Coca Cola, lemon, etc.) are easily removed using mild soap and water, but more difficult dirt (rust, permanent marker, motor oil, etc.) can also be removed using specific products.

Routine cleaning

- For most stains, we recommend using a good quality pH-neutral soap that you can buy in any supermarket.
- Sponge cloths, scotch-brite sponges, sorghum brushes, single-brush cleaners and high-pressure cleaners can be used for cleaning. Do not use scouring pads, wire brushes, sandpaper or other tools that could scratch the surface.
- Cleaning with limescale removers, bathroom and kitchen cleaners, floor cleaners, etc. is allowed.
- Do not use cleaning agents that can scratch, such as scouring powders or creams, and that contain hydrogen peroxide, hydrofluoric acid, strong bleaching agents, chlorine or active oxygen.
- The use of dust sprays or waxes is not recommended as they may alter the colour and/or surface finish.

Extraordinary cleaning

If necessary, a range of professional products is available to remove the most difficult stains (e.g. iodine dye, permanent marker, diesel, engine oil, rust, etc.).

Recommended products:

- Cibermac (brand name Ciber): concentrated neutral non-foaming soap.
- Solv-X (Ciber brand): liquid solvent.
- Deruginex (Ciber brand): acid-based liquid.
- Universtain (Ciber brand): cleaning cream.
- Deterstone (Ciber brand): acid-based liquid.

Below you can find a list of the most suitable detergents according to the type of stain.

Staining substance	Detergent
Oil	Cibermac
Red wine	Cibermac
Coffee	Cibermac
Vinegar	Cibermac + Solv-X
Tincture of iodine	Cibermac + Solv-X
Rust	Deruginex
Silicone	Solv-X
Hand washing soap	Cibermac
Peelable resin	Cibermac
Ketchup	Cibermac
Bic red	Cibermac
Sharpie	Solv-X + Universtain
Graphite	Cibermac + Solv-X
Gear oil	Cibermac + Solv-X
Spent oil	Cibermac + Solv-X
Diesel fuel	Cibermac + Solv-X

For further information, please contact the Gypsum offices.

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EXTRAORDINARY MAINTENANCE

Concrete is treated during the production to ensure stain resistance and washability. After 7 to 10 years, depending on the use and environmental conditions to which the material has been subjected, and in any case when a deep cleaning is required, it may be necessary to restore the surface treatment with a water-based product. In this case, contact us for all the necessary instructions.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

For a good conservation of the material:

- keep the packed material protected from the weather;
- as much as possible, avoid leaving dirt on the surface for long periods;
- avoid prolonged contact with solvents or acidic substances;
- avoid contact with sulphuric acid;
- avoid contact with bleaching agents or substances containing active oxygen;
- avoid rubbing with aggressive abrasives (e.g. sand paper);
- avoid using sharp tools directly on the surface.

WARNINGS

GYP SUM s.r.l. shall not be liable in case of:

- damages and/or aesthetic variations of the product deriving from an improper use of physical or chemical type;
- damages deriving from an improper use of the product of physical or chemical type;
- damages caused by non-compliance with installation and maintenance procedures;
- damages caused by unauthorised modifications or improper use (e.g. sanding of the surface);
- damages caused by incorrect or inadequate maintenance;
- cosmetic changes to the product as a result of incorrect surface treatment;
- damages caused by extraordinary events.

GYP SUM srl reserves the right to modify this document at any time and without notice.

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