LIQUI-CRETE™
CONCRETE COUNTERTOP SOLUTIONS

Supplemental Mixing and Finishing Guide - READ FIRST

Step 1 - Mixing: In a large mixing container or 5 gal. bucket combine 2 quarts of water, one Z Liqui-Crete pack and any optional integral colors. Thoroughly mix for one minute to evenly disperse the acrylic fibers and avoid clumping. Next, add two more quarts of water to the bucket and then slowly add in a 60 lb. bag of CONCRETE SAND MIX while mixing. It is important to add the dry ingredients to the wet. Mix thoroughly with an auger or paddle type mixer for approximately 2 minutes or until all ingredients are completely blended. Up to an additional quart of water may be added to obtain a thick batter consistency. Water volume will vary depending on pre-bagged sand mix and environmental factors. DO NOT over water. It is always safer to err on the drier side. Pre-bagged mixes which contain larger aggregate can be used and may require slightly less water.

Step 2 - Pouring: Concrete can be poured into forms starting at one end of the countertop and working to the other. A screed should be used to level concrete and make sure it is even with the top of the forms. Additonal concrete may need to be added to certain areas where concrete dips lower than the height of the forms.

Step 3 - Floating: Once an initial set is recognized and bleed water is no longer present you may begin to trowel concrete with a magnesium float. In a controlled temperature and humidity this will most likely be between 30 minutes and 1.5 hours after the concrete is placed. The concrete may become “creamy” as this tool pulls moisture to the surface. Light to moderate pressure should be used to acheive a nice and level preliminary finish. Be careful not to drag or pull concrete out of place. The magnesium float will leave the surface with a porous texture. This is key to allow air and water to continue to escape from the concrete as it cures.

Step 4 - Finishing: Once the concrete is firm and starts to take on a dull look (moisture is mostly evaporated from concrete surface), you will use a steel trowel for the final finish. Again, the amount of time will vary depending on a number of factors but will most likely be around the 2-4 hour mark when using the Liqui-Crete admix in a controlled environment. High heat or direct sunlight will reduce this time. You can test the concrete by lightly pressing down with your finger. A light touch should not leave a finger print nor will wet concrete stick to your finger. A very firm press will leave a slight indentation. At this point, use the steel trowel with moderate to firm pressure to smooth the concrete to a slick surface. Once finish is satisfactory, let concrete cure for 48 hours before removing forms or sanding.

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