



TECHNICAL DOCUMENT
INSTALLATION GUIDE
EDITION 3.1

THREE-COAT FLAKE FLOORING SYSTEM

Installation Guide

The complete professional method for a commercial-grade garage floor finish – written so a DIY installer can achieve a professional result with confidence.

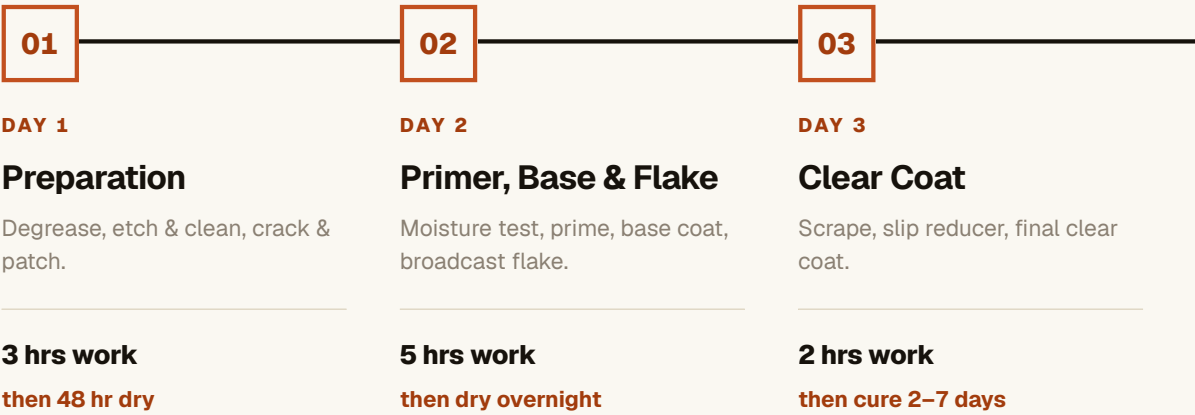
DOCUMENT	SYSTEM	DURATION	PREPARED BY
Installation Guide	3-Coat Flake	3–4 Days	DIY Epoxy Australia

— OVERVIEW

In this guide

00	Before you begin	Purpose, important information & full materials list	3
01	Preparation	Degrease, etch & clean, crack & patch	6
02	Primer, Base Coat & Flake	Moisture test, prime, base coat, broadcast flake	12
03	Clear Coat	Scrape, slip reducer, final clear coat & cure	20

THE THREE-DAY SYSTEM & HOW TO PLAN IT



Allow **4 days** in total – the 48-hour etch dry after Day 1 usually adds a day. In warm weather (25 °C+) the etch can dry within a day, finishing the system in **3 days**. Once coated, the floor takes foot traffic after 2 days and full vehicle traffic after 7.

SECTION 00

READ IN FULL BEFORE STARTING

Before you begin

We trust you will find our epoxy systems straightforward to install. Read this guide in full before any work begins, so you understand the whole process from start to finish.

Questions or technical support at any stage – reach us at info@diyepoxy.au or call **0494 750 000**. We would rather hear from you before a step than after.

HOW TO READ THIS GUIDE

Note – helpful context and options.

Key point – the technique that matters most.

 **Timing** – a window you must hit; don't let it lapse.

 **Caution** – safety, and mistakes that ruin the floor.

SAFETY – READ BEFORE HANDLING ANY PRODUCT

Read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each product before use – available at diyepoxy.au or on request. **Always follow the PPE and first-aid measures set out in the SDS.** As a minimum, work in a well-ventilated area and wear safety glasses, gloves and long sleeves; when mixing powders, also wear a dust mask. For first aid: rinse skin or eyes with plenty of water and seek medical advice; if swallowed, do not induce vomiting and seek medical help immediately. Keep children and pets away from the work area until the floor has cured.

0.1 Important information

- 1 Choose a window with **no predicted rain** and no temperatures below **10 °C**, to avoid delays in drying and curing.
- 2 Keep a pen handy and mark off each step as you go, so you don't miss any part of the process.
- 3 Avoid installing any coatings in temperatures above **35 °C**, or on surfaces that have been in the sun and have a surface temperature above **30 °C**.
- 4 When your kit arrives, check it against the included checklist to confirm you have received everything you need.
- 5 All coats must be applied within the maximum time allowed over the previous coat (see Exhibit 0.2).
- 6 Pour any unused materials into an empty bottle and dispose of them per your local council recommendations. Wash all tools with water shortly after use.
- 7 Always use the recommended PPE for each step and material used throughout the process.

MAXIMUM OVERCOAT WINDOWS

COAT	APPLIED OVER	MAXIMUM WINDOW
Base Coat	Primer	8 hours @ 25 °C
Clear Coat	Base Coat & Flake	24 hours @ 25 °C

CAUTION – DO NOT EXCEED THE OVERCOAT WINDOW

Do not leave a coating longer than specified before overcoating. **If the time frame has lapsed, you must sand the surface before applying any additional coats.**

FULL MATERIALS LIST

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ 3× 230mm Roller Covers | ☐ A Pressure Washer – or garden hose |
| ☐ 3× Paint Brushes | ☐ A Drill & Mixing Paddle – or stirring stick |
| ☐ 1× 230mm Roller Frame | ☐ A Stiff Broom |
| ☐ 1× Roller Pole – or broom handle | ☐ Moisture Meter – optional, see 2.2 |
| ☐ 3× Mixing Buckets | ☐ Rags |
| ☐ 1× 48mm Masking Tape | ☐ A Drop Sheet |
| ☐ 1× 230mm Paint Roller Tray | ☐ Safety Glasses |
| ☐ A Watering Can | ☐ Gloves |
-

We sell a complete painter's kit with all buckets, brushes and rollers needed. You may also source these locally – buy **high-quality roller covers** to avoid lint in the finished floor.

01

Preparation

A sound, clean, profiled and dry slab is the single biggest determinant of a lasting floor.

1.1**Degreaser****1.2****Etch & Clean****1.3****Crack & Patch**

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Degreaser – if required | ☐ A Watering Can |
| ☐ Etch & Clean – in your kit | ☐ A Stiff Broom |
| ☐ Crack & Patch – if required | ☐ Safety Glasses |
| ☐ 2× Buckets | ☐ Gloves |
-

1.1 Degreaser

NOTE

If your floor has any oil staining or darker marks that may be oil-based, degrease these areas first. We sell a degreaser solution, though any alkaline degreaser works – provided it is hosed off thoroughly and never allowed to dry on the surface.

- 1** Pressure wash the concrete before degreasing. No pressure washer? Use the stiff broom and a hose to wash thoroughly, then allow to dry.
- 2** Empty the degreaser solution into a bucket.
- 3** Pour the degreaser onto any staining and allow it to sit for 2–3 minutes. Do not let the solution dry – add more if needed.
- 4** Using the stiff broom, agitate the solution into the stain, keeping the area saturated.
- 5** Once the stain has stayed wet for more than 5 minutes, hose the whole area to remove all degreaser.

KEY POINT

Ensure all degreaser solution has been removed with a generous amount of water.

- 6** Repeat if necessary until the stain becomes invisible or very faint.
- 7** To check, place a drop of water on the surface: beading means oil is still present; soaking in means the oil is sufficiently removed.

1.2 Etch & Clean

NOTE

Carry out this step in cooler weather to avoid evaporation of the etching solution. **Early morning is ideal** – cooler, and it leaves the rest of the day for drying.

CAUTION – MILD ACID

The Etch & Clean solution contains a **mild acid**. Avoid contact with skin and eyes, and rinse immediately on contact – in both powder form and once mixed. Always wear safety glasses, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Mixing the powder creates dust – wear a dust mask and work in a well-ventilated area.

- 1 If you did not degrease, pressure wash the concrete first. No pressure washer? Use the stiff broom and a hose, then allow to dry.
- 2 You will need 2 buckets to split the Etch & Clean solution into 2 batches:
 - **Small kits** – add 3.75L of water per bucket, for a total of 7.5L of solution.
 - **Large kits** – add 7.5L of water per bucket, for a total of 15L of solution.
- 3 Empty the Etch & Clean powder into the water, distributing evenly between the 2 buckets. **Always add Etch & Clean to the water – never water to the Etch & Clean.**
- 4 Use a stirring stick to ensure all the powder is fully dissolved.

🕒 DWELL TIME – 5–15 MIN

The solution must be pooled on the concrete for a **minimum of 5 minutes**, and up to **15 minutes** for very smooth concrete. Keep the floor saturated, with excess solution sitting on the surface, throughout.

- 5 Empty one bucket (half) of the mixed solution into the watering can.
- 6 Beginning at the back and working out, water the concrete until the whole floor is thoroughly saturated. Avoid getting solution on anything but the concrete.
- 7 Fill the watering can with the second bucket and set it aside.
- 8 Agitate the solution into the concrete with the stiff broom, keeping the floor flooded using the spare solution.
- 9 After a minimum of 5 minutes, rub the concrete with a gloved hand: it should have lost its smooth finish and feel slightly sandy and rough.

- 10** Once treated, hose the surface down to remove the etching solution.

🕒 **RINSE THOROUGHLY – 15 MIN**

Hose the area for a full **15 minutes**, agitating with the stiff broom, to ensure no residue of the Etch & Clean solution is left on the surface.

- 11** Allow to dry before proceeding.
- 12** Once dry, apply a few drops of water in several areas: you want it to soak in, not bead. Water will soak in slowly in some areas, which is fine. You can also smear a drop with a finger and watch the line soak in.

1.3 Crack & Patch

NOTE

If your floor has cracking or imperfections, patch these before commencing. We sell a fast-setting, high-strength patching compound, though any cement-based repair product works – provided it is allowed to dry thoroughly before coating.

CAUTION – PORTLAND CEMENT

The Crack & Patch compound is a **Portland cement-based product**. Avoid contact with skin and eyes, and rinse immediately on contact – in both powder form and once mixed. Always wear safety glasses, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Mixing the powder creates dust – wear a dust mask and work in a well-ventilated area.

- 1 Allow the concrete to dry from the previous step so excess moisture doesn't delay the compound drying.
- 2 Empty a small amount of compound into a mixing cup – roughly the size of an egg. It starts to set within 5 minutes, so small batches waste less.
- 3 Add small splashes of water while mixing with a spatula until the mixture is a cement-like consistency that holds its form without slumping. Add more powder if needed.
- 4 Ensure there are no dry lumps, then push the product into any cracks and imperfections.
- 5 Swipe sideways into the crack first, then smooth with a final pass along the crack. Leave the material slightly proud so it doesn't sag and show through the coating.
- 6 Allow to dry for 1–2 hours, then lightly sand the repairs flush with the provided sandpaper. Larger patches may need longer.
- 7 Remove all excess and dropped compound from areas where no repairs were made, so loose material doesn't end up in the coating.
- 8 Vacuum the dust and ensure the whole floor is clean, ready for the next step.

02

Primer, Base Coat & Flake

The colour day. Confirm the slab is dry, prime, then roll the base coat and broadcast flake – all in one continuous, time-bound sequence.

2.1**Mix your flake****2.2****Moisture test****2.3****Applying the
primer****2.4****Base coat & flake**

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Primer Kit – Part A & B | ☐ A Bucket |
| ☐ Base Coat Kit – Part A & B | ☐ Masking Tape |
| ☐ Flake Packet | ☐ Cling Wrap |
| ☐ 2× 230mm Roller – frame, cover, pole | ☐ Safety Glasses |
| ☐ 2× Paint Brush | ☐ Gloves |
| ☐ Paint Roller Tray | ☐ Rags |
| ☐ Drill & Mixing Paddle | ☐ Moisture Meter – optional |
-

2.1 Mix your flake

If you are using our standard flake blend, you may skip this step.

- If using a flake highlight colour or glitter additive, combine it into the flake in a large bucket, mixing throughout to evenly disperse the highlights.
- **Colour highlights** are sold in 100g packets – the recommended amount for a 1kg flake packet. Halve the additive for the small kit.
- **Glitter** is sold in 30g packs – the recommended amount for a 1kg flake packet. Halve the additive for the small kit.

2.2 Moisture test

CRITICAL

It is vital your floor is **completely dry** from the last step. Below are two methods to confirm the concrete is ready for coating.

A Moisture meter

recommended

We recommend a moisture meter to confirm the concrete is completely dry before coating. An affordable option is the **Ozito Digital Moisture Meter** from Bunnings, or any suitable moisture meter.



WHERE TO BUY

Scan the code, or search “**Ozito moisture meter**” at [bunnings.com.au](https://www.bunnings.com.au).

- 1 Install the battery into the device.
- 2 Power on the device.
- 3 Push the ON/SET button until the “tree” icon changes to a “bricks” icon.
- 4 Firmly push the probes into the concrete in 6 different areas, recording each reading.
- 5 Read the indicator lights: **green** = ready to coat; **yellow** = still slightly wet; **red** = far too wet.

B Cling-wrap test

no meter required

- 1 Cut a piece of cling wrap approximately 40cm long.
- 2 Spread it over a section of floor (not an area that has been, or will be, in the sun), taping the edges to seal it. Ensure the wrap has no punctures.
- 3 Leave for 24–48 hours and inspect for moisture inside the sealed area. If moisture appears, remove the wrap and allow another 24 hours of drying before retrying.

2.3 Applying the primer

CAUTION – EPOXIDE RESIN & AMINES

The Primer kit contains **epoxide resin and amines**. Avoid contact with skin and eyes, and rinse immediately on contact – in both separated form and once mixed. Always wear safety glasses, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Work in a well-ventilated area.

🕒 BASE COAT SAME DAY – 8 HOURS MAX

The base coat must be applied over the primer on the same day. Do not allow the primer to cure for more than 8 hours. Curing longer will require sanding the primer and re-applying.

- 1 Apply masking tape to all skirting boards, perimeters and objects you wish to coat around, pressing firmly to avoid the base coat bleeding.
- 2 Shake both Part A and Part B Primer bottles well.

🕒 POT LIFE – 1 HOUR

The mixed product has a pot life of 1 hour. You have plenty of time to apply it, but don't let it sit – start applying straight after mixing.

- 3 Empty the whole contents of Primer Part A into a mixing bucket.
- 4 Empty the whole contents of Primer Part B into the bucket with Part A.
- 5 Using a drill and mixing paddle, mix on **medium speed for 3 minutes** – avoid high speed and introducing air. Move up and down, scraping the sides and bottom. (By hand with a stirring stick, 5 minutes or more.)
- 6 Pour some mixed material into the paint roller tray.
- 7 Using the paint brush, cut in around the edges and joints with the material in the bucket.
- 8 Roll out the primer with the 230mm roller, working back to front in 1.5m sections, spreading evenly and rolling in 2 directions if needed.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

The applied primer should be a milky-white film sitting on the surface, slowly dissipating to clear over about 15 minutes as it dries. Watch your usage when refilling the tray so you don't apply too thick or run short – there is ample material in the kit, with a little spare.

- 9 Allow to dry for 2–3 hours, or until you can walk on the floor without excessive stickiness.

2.4 Applying the base coat & flake

CAUTION – POLYURETHANE RESINS

The Base Coat kit contains **polyurethane resins**. Avoid contact with skin and eyes, and rinse immediately on contact – in both separated form and once mixed. Always wear safety glasses, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Work in a well-ventilated area.

- 1 Once the primer has dried enough to not be excessively sticky, begin the base coat and flake process.
- 2 Shake both Part A and Part B Base Coat bottles well.

🕒 POT LIFE – 1 HOUR

The mixed product has a pot life of 1 hour. Don't let it sit – apply straight after mixing.

SECTION YOUR FLOOR FIRST

Using masking tape, divide your floor into sections roughly **1.5m wide**, from the back wall to the exit, by sticking small pieces of tape along the lower walls.

- 3 Empty the whole contents of Base Coat Part A into a mixing bucket.
- 4 Empty the whole contents of Base Coat Part B into the bucket with Part A.
- 5 Using a drill and mixing paddle, mix on **medium speed for 3 minutes** – avoid high speed and air. Scrape the sides and bottom, and ensure the colour is consistent. (By hand, 5 minutes or more.)
- 6 Pour some mixed material into the paint roller tray.
- 7 Using the paint brush, cut in around the edges and joints with the material in the bucket.
- 8 Roll out the base coat with the 230mm roller, working back to front in 1.5m sections.

TECHNIQUE

Roll the coating in one direction, then lightly back-roll in the opposite direction, so there are minimal roller marks and no spots are missed.

THROWING THE FLAKE

Use a small bucket to hold the flake. Divide it into **4 equal amounts** and throw one portion per quarter of the area, monitoring as you go. Take very small pinches at a time – especially on your first throws – to gauge how the flake lands. Throw the flake **upward, aiming for the ceiling**, and let it fall naturally. Do not throw flake downward into the coating: this creates clumps and an inconsistent broadcast.

- 9** Once you've rolled out a 1.5m section, throw the flake into the wet coating. Avoid landing flake on any area not yet coated.
- 10** Continue in 1.5m sections until the whole area is complete.
- 11** Allow to dry for **12 hours or overnight**, ensuring nobody walks on the coating and no doors are shut onto the wet product.

03

Clear Coat

The protective, hard-wearing finish. Scrape back loose flake, apply slip reducer, then lay the final clear coat for a smooth, durable surface.

3.1**Removing excess flake****3.2****Slip-reducing additive****3.3****Applying the clear coat**

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Clear Coat Kit – Part A & B | ☐ A Bucket |
| ☐ 230mm Roller – frame, cover, pole | ☐ Safety Glasses |
| ☐ Paint Brush | ☐ Gloves |
| ☐ Paint Roller Tray | ☐ Rags |
| ☐ Drill & Mixing Paddle | |
-

3.1 Removing excess flake

- 1 Check the coating has cured. In an inconspicuous spot, press a fingernail into the surface: if it leaves an indent, the coating needs more time. When a fingernail leaves no mark and a pressed palm comes away clean and non-tacky, it's ready to walk on.

PROTECT THE BASE COAT

Walk on the coating in **socks** while scraping – less likely to mark the base coat. If wearing shoes, clean the soles first and check they leave no marks; shoes with mild tread are better suited.

- 2 Remove loose and standing flakes by scraping gently. We include a plastic scraper in our painter's kit for safe removal of sharp or protruding flakes. A hardware-store plastic scraper also works – we do not recommend metal scrapers, as they may leave marks.
- 3 Using a blower or soft broom, remove the loose flakes from the area, ready for the clear coat.

3.2 Applying slip-reducing additive

If you are using our slip reducer, now is the time to spread it evenly across the floor.

- 1 Place the slip-reducing powder into a cup and, in the same motion as the flake application, spread it over the floor as evenly as possible. When you apply the clear coat, roll in 2 directions to ensure no clumping.
- **Slip-Reducing Additive** is sold in 150g packets – the recommended amount for a 40m² area. Reduce the amount to suit your garage size.

3.3 Applying the clear coat

CAUTION - POLYURETHANE RESINS

The Clear Coat kit contains **polyurethane resins**. Avoid contact with skin and eyes, and rinse immediately on contact – in both separated form and once mixed. Always wear safety glasses, gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Work in a well-ventilated area.

🕒 OVERCOAT WINDOW - 24 HOURS

Apply the clear coat within **24 hours** of the base coat & flake (at 25 °C). If longer has passed, lightly sand the surface before clear-coating.

- 1 Shake both Part A and Part B Clear Coat bottles well.

🕒 POT LIFE - 1 HOUR

The mixed product has a pot life of 1 hour. Don't let it sit – apply straight after mixing.

- 2 Empty the whole contents of Clear Coat Part A into a mixing bucket.
- 3 Empty the whole contents of Clear Coat Part B into the bucket with Part A.
- 4 Using a drill and mixing paddle, mix on **medium speed for 3 minutes** – avoid high speed and air. Scrape the sides and bottom. (By hand, 5 minutes or more.)
- 5 Pour some mixed material into the paint roller tray.
- 6 Using the paint brush, cut in around the edges and joints with the material in the bucket.
- 7 Roll out the clear coat with the 230mm roller, back to front in 1.5m sections. Roll in one direction, then back-roll in the opposite direction.

FINISHING TOUCH

On the final back-roll, lift the roller slightly to reduce pressure and minimise roller lines.

- 8 Repeat in 1.5m sections until the whole area is coated.

WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE

The applied clear coat should be a milky-white film sitting on the surface, slowly turning clear over about 5 minutes as it dries. Watch your usage when refilling the tray so you don't apply too thick or run short – there is ample material, with a little spare.

PROJECT COMPLETE

That's it – you're done.

You have completed the installation of your DIY Epoxy Australia kit. Give the floor time to cure fully before putting it back to work.

48 hrs

Foot traffic and storage of lighter items.

7 days

Full cure – vehicle traffic and heavier items (100kg+).

Proud of your floor?

Leave us a review and share your photos – tag [@diyepoxy](#) or send them to info@diyepoxy.au. By sending photos you give us permission to feature them. We love seeing customer floors.

Something not right?

Talk to us before anything else – info@diyepoxy.au or **0494 750 000**. We'll help you put it right.

DISCLAIMER

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