



EPOXY CURE

Heat rings from a coffee cup seems to be one of the biggest indicators that the Crystal Top Epoxy is not properly cured. The heat from the rim on the bottom of a coffee cup is very direct and intense. As the epoxy continues to cure out it will gradually grow a stronger resistance to all heat rings, but insuring that you achieved a full cure will prevent this waiting process. To increase the resistance against heat Granicrete has developed Crystal Top Epoxy AHD (Advanced Heat Diffusion). This epoxy when properly cured has eliminated the heat ring issue. We have created some further instructions to help ensure that you achieve a full cure with either epoxy.

The first step in achieving a full cure is storing the epoxy in a room that is 77°F or warmer 24 hours prior to the installation. The next step is mixing the epoxy properly which is detailed in the product information sheet.

Adding more hardener **will** soften the epoxy and **will** prevent the epoxy from reaching an optimal cure. A 1:1 mixture will provide the optimal strength and heat resistance. Always measure out each component before mixing them together. NEVER estimate your mixing ratio.

In order to achieve a proper cure with the epoxy it is essential that the ambient temperature in the room is 77 °F or warmer throughout the entire curing stage. The curing stage on Granicrete's Crystal Top epoxy is 7 days. If an ambient temperature of 77°F is not maintained throughout the curing process it will take significantly longer for the epoxy to reach its optimal strength and heat resistance. Example: If you epoxy in a room that is 60-62 degrees F it will take 14-16 days for the epoxy to reach optimal strength and heat resistance.

During the application process it is essential that the surface, epoxy and ambient temperatures are all above 77°F. The countertop texture and colorant must be completely dry before applying the epoxy. It is also recommended that a de-humidifier is used whenever possible. If moisture is trapped under the epoxy it can cause the epoxy to cloud up, dimple or not fully cure.

If an optimal cure is not achieved a heat gun (not a torch) can be used to finish the curing process. The epoxy needs to be on the surface for at least 24hrs before attempting to use a heat gun. The temperature of the epoxy needs to reach 160°F to complete the curing process. Do not hold the heat gun in one area too long or the epoxy can burn. It is important to wave the heat gun over the surface to increase the temperature. An infrared thermometer can be used to check the temperature of the epoxy while heating it with a heat gun.

By following the proper mixing steps detailed on the product information sheet and following the steps listed above Granicrete's Crystal Top Epoxy will achieve a full cure.

We are always continuing to improve our products and training methods. The last improvement in epoxy was the AHD (Advanced Heat Diffusion) which significantly helped with heat rings. We are constantly working to improve all our products and training materials to keep Granicrete installers ahead of the industry.

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