ACQUATINT™ COLORED CONCRETE SEALER
TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

DESCRIPTION

AcquaTint™ Colored Sealer is a water-based colored sealer that delivers long-lasting color enhancement and surface protection in one system. Engineered with advanced polymerization technology, it forms a dense, cross-linked film that bonds tightly to concrete, providing exceptional clarity, color uniformity, and resistance to weathering, abrasion, and chemical exposure. The result is a premium, low-VOC coating that achieves architectural-grade performance with professional aesthetic results. AcquaTint™ is suitable for both interior and exterior concrete surfaces and cures to a satin finish.

PRODUCT BENEFITS

- **Superior Durability:** Ensures long-lasting protection against abrasion, chemicals, and environmental factors.
- **Enhances Natural Finish:** AcquaTint™ enhances the concrete's natural finish rather than hiding it, allowing the material's character to show through.
- **Versatile Color Selection:** AcquaTint™ offers a wide range of hues for transforming plain concrete into aesthetically pleasing surfaces.
- **Environmental Responsibility:** Low VOC formulation supports healthier indoor and outdoor environments.
- **Adhesion & Flexibility:** Exhibits excellent adhesion to a variety of substrates, maintaining flexibility to withstand physical stresses.
- **Weather and UV Resistance:** Engineered for exceptional resistance to weathering and UV degradation, preserving the integrity and appearance of treated surfaces.
- **Dust Mitigation:** Effectively reduces surface dusting for a cleaner, more maintainable finish.
- **Color Enhancement Options:** AcquaTint™ can be applied over other concrete treatments to enhance the tone of colored concrete.

PRE-APPLICATION

- **Cured:** Before applying AcquaTint™, ensure that the concrete or concrete overlay is fully cured. For optimum results, a curing period of at least 28 days is recommended. Applying colored sealer to concrete that has not fully cured may lead to unpredictable results in terms of color and adhesion.
- **Sound:** The surface must be dry and structurally sound. Ensure it is clean and free of dirt, oil, grease, curing compounds, existing sealer, and any other material that might interfere with the effectiveness of the colored sealer.
- **Profiled:** Perform an absorption test to check if the concrete is ready. Pour water onto the concrete surface and wait 3–5 minutes. If the water is not absorbed, the surface must be cleaned and etched with CitrusEtch™, or mechanically abraded, to open the pores of the concrete. Detailed instructions can be found in the CitrusEtch™ Technical Data Sheet. If the concrete absorbs the water, it is ready for AcquaTint™ application.
- **Temperature:** Apply when air and surface temperatures are between 60°F (15°C) and 95°F (35°C) for optimal results.
- **Boxing:** When using multiple containers on a single job, combine and mix them together ("boxing") before use to minimize lot-to-lot color variation.
- **Note:** Surfaces that are excessively porous, such as those poorly finished, broomed, or very old, may absorb AcquaTint™ too deeply, resulting in a less visible color.

PREPARATION

- **Personal Safety:** Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment as recommended in the Safety Data Sheet.
- **Area Preparation:** Protect surfaces not intended for coating by covering surrounding areas to prevent accidental application.

- **Tape:** Avoid using tape on concrete surfaces before or after applying the colored sealer, as adhesives and plasticizers can interfere with the colored sealer's effectiveness.

TOOLS FOR APPLICATION

- **For Large Applications:** Apply using a garden-type pump sprayer with a ⅜" nap roller for backrolling, and a paint tray.
- **For Small Projects:** Use a soft brush or a small foam applicator, alongside a tub or dishpan large enough for easy dipping of the brush.

APPLICATION

- **Mix thoroughly before and during use.**

Pigment can settle; keep the product mixed throughout the job to maintain color consistency.

- **Apply two coats.** Two thin coats are required for full color development and durability. Do not attempt to achieve color depth with a single heavy coat — heavy application causes bubbling, puddling, and uneven color.
- **Divide the work area into manageable sections,** using natural break points like walls and joints to ensure uniform application.
- **Maintain wet edges** to minimize overlap marks.
- **Apply an even coat.** Roll in a continuous, thin, overlapping pattern, or spray in a controlled, circular motion. Note: the sealer will appear milky when applied but dries clear.
- **Backroll after spraying.** Backrolling immediately after spraying with a ⅜" nap roller is highly recommended. Spraying without backrolling increases the risk of puddles, drips, and uneven color. Start and stop the sprayer off the work surface.
- **Apply thin layers** to avoid bubbling and ensure optimal finish and performance.
- **Allow the coat to dry.** AcquaTint™ dries to the touch in 30–60 minutes. Wait at least 2 hours before applying the second coat, adjusting for environmental conditions.
- **Confirm dryness before recoating.** Press the surface firmly with a thumbnail. If no dent forms, the coat is ready to recoat.
- **Tip for Windy Conditions:** Prefer rolling to spraying under windy conditions to minimize sealer waste and prevent bubble formation. Wind can significantly increase sealer loss and lead to uneven application.

DRY & CURE TIMES

- Dry to touch: 30–60 minutes
- Dry to recoat: 2 hours minimum, confirmed by thumbnail test
- Foot traffic: 6-12 hours
- Fully cured: 24 hours

Times vary with temperature, humidity, and air movement. Cool or humid conditions extend all stages. Prevent any liquid, including sweat, from contacting the coating before full cure.

COVERAGE

Approximately 200 sq. ft. (18.58 m²) per gallon at the required two-coat application. A gallon supplies roughly 400 sq. ft. (37.16 m²) of single-coat material. Actual coverage rates may differ based on factors such as surface porosity, texture, the age and condition of the concrete, chosen application method, and prevailing environmental conditions.

THINNING

Thinning or diluting this product is strongly discouraged.

CLEAN UP

- **Immediate Clean Up:** Clean tools and wipe spills with soap and warm water before AcquaTint™ has dried.
- **Removing Cured Sealer:** To remove AcquaTint™ once it has cured, Destiny™ Stripper or a comparable high-strength commercial-grade stripper is recommended. Consult the Technical Data Sheet of the selected stripper for specific application guidelines and safety measures.

SURFACE PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- **Routine Cleaning:** Clean with ProClean Daily™ Neutral Cleaner or another compatible neutral-pH cleaner. Avoid harsh or high-alkaline cleaners, which can dull or damage the finish.
- **Periodic Inspection:** Periodically inspect the sealed surface for areas where the sealer may be thinning or showing signs of wear due to traffic. Reapply the sealer as needed.

- **Efflorescence:** If traces of efflorescence are present, remove them using a gentle cleaner before resealing or applying any maintenance products.
- **Optional Clear Topcoat:** AcquaTint™ does not require a separate clear sealer. Apply a compatible clear water-based topcoat — AcquaSeal™ or HydroCryl™ — only if additional gloss, slip resistance, or wear protection is desired. Any topcoat over AcquaTint™ must be water-based; solvent-based sealers will not bond properly and the finish will fail over time. For interior surfaces, ProWax Polish™ may be applied as a sacrificial layer over the cured seal coat to enhance protection and appearance. Obtain and review the appropriate Technical Data Sheet and Safety Data Sheet prior to using any topcoat product.

SUITABILITY SAMPLE

Prior to application, prepare a sufficient number of test areas on the actual substrate to determine the aesthetic suitability of the product for its intended use.

LIMITATIONS & PRECAUTIONS

- **Additive Incompatibility:** Do not mix OxiGrip™ Slip-Resistant Additive, or any other additive, into AcquaTint™. Mixing will cause coating failure. Slip-resistant additives must be carried in a separate clear water-based topcoat applied over cured AcquaTint™.
- **Spray Application:** Backrolling immediately after spraying is highly recommended. Spraying without backrolling increases the risk of puddles, drips, and uneven color.
- **Batch Variability:** The supply of specialized pigments may vary between batches. To ensure color consistency, use the same batch for the entire job or mix multiple batches together ("boxing").
- **Surface Compatibility:** AcquaTint™ may face adhesion challenges on hard-troweled (machine troweled smooth) surfaces or surfaces with pores smaller than its particles. On such surfaces, the colored sealer risks drying without adhering properly. Ensure thorough surface preparation to mitigate this risk.
- **Avoid Liquid Contact During Curing:** Prevent any liquids, including sweat, from coming into contact with the uncured coating, as this can affect both the curing process and the quality of the finish.
- **Surface Characteristics:** AcquaTint™, a semi-transparent colored sealer, enriches the concrete surface with color without acting as an opaque paint. It preserves the visibility of discolorations, blemishes, cracks, and other surface inconsistencies rather than concealing them. This property might even highlight variations in surface porosity. AcquaTint™ goes on with a milky appearance but dries to reveal a tinted hue, and typically appears lighter when dry than when wet.
- **Wear and Tear:** As with all water-based acrylic sealers, AcquaTint™ is subject to surface wear. Its longevity and durability are contingent upon proper application to a suitably prepared surface, and will also depend on the volume and type of traffic.
- **Color Accuracy:** While efforts are made to accurately represent colors in product literature, photos, and sample color chips, the actual color achieved on concrete can significantly differ. This discrepancy stems from the sealer's translucent nature, allowing the color of the concrete base to affect the final shade.

SLIP RESISTANCE

Two prominent US agencies, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Department of Justice through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), have set guidelines for minimum coefficients of friction to ensure safety on walkways and ramps. The ADA standards are notably more stringent, requiring a minimum coefficient of friction of 0.6 for accessible walkways and 0.8 for ramps. It is the applicator's responsibility to ensure these criteria are met, especially in areas prone to becoming wet, oily, or greasy.

Do not add OxiGrip™ Slip-Resistant Additive, or any other slip-resistant additive, directly to AcquaTint™. The additive is not compatible with the AcquaTint™ formulation and will cause the colored sealer to fail, requiring the surface to be stripped and recoated.

To achieve slip resistance on an AcquaTint™ surface: apply AcquaTint™ as the color-and-seal layer and allow it to cure fully. Then apply a clear water-based topcoat — AcquaSeal™ or HydroCryl™ — with OxiGrip™ mixed into that clear topcoat. The clear topcoat carries the additive and delivers the slip resistance; the AcquaTint™ beneath it delivers the color. Refer to the OxiGrip™ Slip-Resistant Additive Technical Data Sheet and its accompanying coefficient of friction table for dosage and performance data.

DISPOSAL
For the disposal of any unused product, please refer to your local environmental or hazardous waste management authority to ensure compliance with local regulations.

SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE
This product should be used within one year of purchase for optimal effectiveness. For storage, keep the product indoors, in a cool area away from direct sunlight and heat sources. Do not allow to freeze.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES
CAUTION: Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Do not take internally. In case of eye contact, flush thoroughly with water. In case of skin contact, flush thoroughly with water. If swallowed, do not induce vomiting. Call physician immediately. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

WARRANTY
AcquaTint™, a proprietary product, is guaranteed to maintain uniform quality within the bounds of manufacturing tolerances. However, as we have no control over its application, no explicit or implied warranty is provided concerning the effects of such use. In the event of a proven defect, our liability is strictly limited to refunding the purchase price of the defective material. The user is responsible for all other risks and liabilities that may arise from the use of this product. For any inquiries, please reach out to Direct Colors customer service.

AVAILABLE SIZES & PACKAGING
4-Ounce (0.118 L) Bottle 1-Gallon (3.785 L) Jug 5-Gallon (18.925 L) Carboy 55-Gallon (208 L) Drum

COMPLEMENTARY PRODUCTS
- ProClean Degreaser™ Concentrate — cleaning agent
- ProClean Daily™ Neutral Cleaner — routine maintenance cleaner
- ProClean Neutralizer™ Concentrate
- CitrusEtch™ — concrete etching agent
- AcquaSeal™ Water-Based Sealer — clear topcoat
- HydroCryl™ Water-Based Sealer — clear topcoat
- ProWax Polish™ Premium Floor Wax & Polish — interior sacrificial layer
- OxiGrip™ Slip-Resistant Additive — for use in a clear topcoat over AcquaTint™, never mixed into AcquaTint™

APPLICABLE STANDARDS
Meets EQ Credit 4.2 for Low-Emitting Materials: Paints & Coatings.

TECHNICAL SERVICE & SUPPORT
Direct Colors offers comprehensive technical assistance and consulting services. Our expertise includes product selection guidance, specification details, troubleshooting support, and advice on the effective repair and protection of concrete surfaces. We are committed to providing tailored solutions to meet your specific project needs.

TECHNICAL DATA

Physical State	Liquid
Color	Color Varies
Odor	Slight
Solids by Weight	~ 33%
Solids by Volume	~ 31%
Density	~ 8.5 lbs/gal
VOC	50 g/L
Solubility in Water	< 50%
pH	ND
Specific Gravity	~ 1.02
Flash Point	>200°F (93.3°C)

SAFETY DATA SHEET
Scan the QR code below for the complete Safety Data Sheet.

SCAN