



NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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LINSEED OIL APPLIED TO CEMENT TERRAZZO SURFACES

This bulletin deals with the vintage use of a blend of linseed oil and turpentine or mineral spirits, which have sometimes been used successfully by terrazzo contractors on interior and exterior terrazzo surface.

Using this material on a cement terrazzo surface will permanently darken the aggregate and matrix and is impossible to remove. The linseed oil is diluted with the turpentine or mineral spirits, allowing the oil to penetrate but, not always in a uniform manner. The lower the concentration of oil in the turpentine, the more uniform the appearance will be. The depth of the penetration is dependent on the hardness and porosity of the surface materials.

CAUTION: Excessive amounts in any given area will result in a darkened shade, which is impossible to control. There are no protective qualities in such treatment. If this is the desire of the owner, there should be a solvent-based sealer applied over this oil treatment, especially in areas that use chemicals on exterior surfaces during winter months.

There is no way a contractor can guarantee the results as far as color uniformity is concerned.

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