



NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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GRINDING CEMENT TERRAZZO

The initial grinding exposes the marble chips or other aggregates used in the composition of the 1/2 inch terrazzo. The initial grinding creates a shock to the aggregate used. Thus, the aggregate must be well anchored by the finishing process. The normal rolling seats will compact the aggregate as well as extract the excess water and cement. This produces the required density and reduces shrinkage.

The time lapse between placing and grinding depends on humidity and temperature. It is essential that terrazzo be placed in an ambient temperature above 60°F. Commence the initial grinding 1 to 5 days after placement. White Portland cement usually requires a shorter cure period than grey Portland cement.

Any delay in the initial grinding creates an increase in grinding costs. The hardness of the marble chips does not change, but cement binder does. The labor and material cost factors increase, with a decrease in productivity.

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