



THE NATIONAL  
**TERRAZZO**  
— & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION —

# What is Rustic Terrazzo? Custom Options for Exterior Paving



- Cement system typically specified for on-grade outdoor applications.
- Common applications: pool decks, walkways, patios, steps, plazas.
- A textured, nonslip finish resistant to weather conditions.
- Unlike most interior terrazzo installations, rustic is left unground and unpolished. Installed as a half-inch topping bonded to concrete.

## Design

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- Custom first impressions adaptable to any architectural style.
- Vast design flexibility, much like terrazzo for interiors.
- A broad scope of variables, from aggregate sizes and matrix colors to the creative use of divider strips.
- An unpolished surface showcases the texture and colors of each stone.
- Classic traditional or artistically complex designs for floor and wall surfaces.
- Can depict most any logo, figure, or pattern.

### Compared to Exposed Aggregate Concrete

- A more refined, consistent aesthetic than a concrete finish.
- More options for design and patterns.

### Proper maintenance

- Requires annual sealing and caulking.
- De-icing chemicals and salt can damage the surface, so caulk joints instead of metal strips should be used where applicable.
- If water collects around it, freeze-thaw cycles can damage it.

### Compatible Terrazzo Systems

- Sand cushion includes a slip sheet to aid in the suppression of reflective cracking, but should not be used in environments where moisture could freeze and cause the underbed to deteriorate.
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- Monolithic should be used only in areas where the concrete substrate is stable and not susceptible to cracking.



