



NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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BLACK TERRAZZO

An all black terrazzo surface or a very dark terrazzo surface will show more visible variations in the marble aggregates, matrix colors, pinholes and polishing swirl marks that are inherent to all other terrazzo colors, but are just not as noticeable. The following are a few things to consider:

1. **Portland Cement Matrix:** In order to obtain as deep a black color as possible, it is necessary to use the maximum permitted amount of black pigment. Please consult with the pigment supplier for maximum amount of pigment and the expected color. Portland gray cements vary in color. Therefore, the intensity of the black color may also be slightly different from one brand of cement to another. It should also be noted that black Portland cement binder's efflorescence is more noticeable and it may take longer for the terrazzo to lose the blotch look as occurs with new terrazzo.
2. **Epoxy Matrix:** It is possible to achieve a good deep black binder for terrazzo using a factory formulated epoxy matrix.
3. **Black Chips:** Being a product of nature, the intensity of the color may vary and the proportions of white veining in the marble may vary from one section of a quarry to another. Being sensitive to grinding and sealers, they may often appear to be various shades of dark gray.

Futhermore, it should be noted that the fine (120 grit) swirl marks from polishing and pinholes may remain visible for some time after the floor is finished. Over time, good maintenance and use will diminish these condtions.

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