



# NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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800.323.9736

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(Formerly TB#60)

## EXTERIOR RUSTIC TERRAZZO JOINTS

The following is a suggested treatment of joints in exterior rustic terrazzo applications in cold climates.

Metal or plastic divider strips are not recommended for exterior systems because the composition of the terrazzo will shrink away from the divider strip during the initial curing stage, which allows moisture to penetrate the system. This will cause problems, especially in cold weather climates. The system that we suggest reduces the problem of such openings occurring.

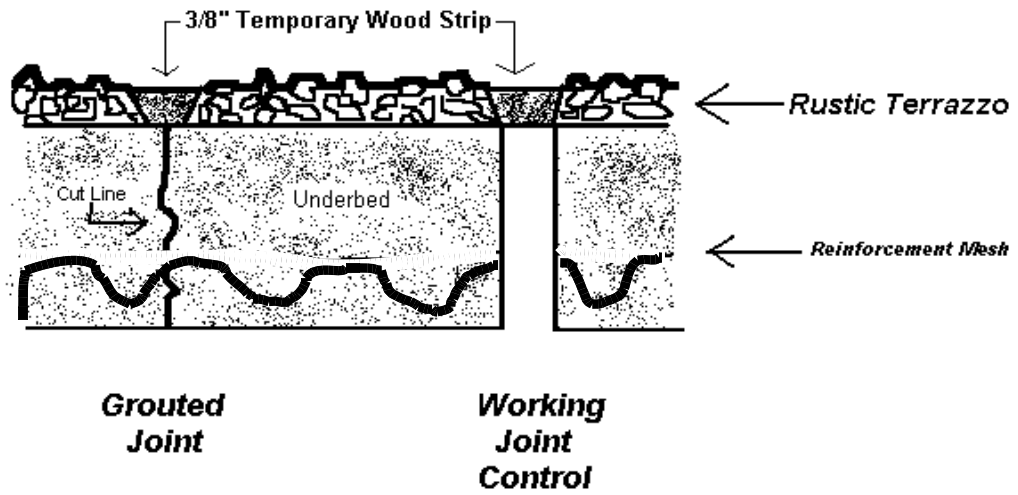
In lieu of the use of divider strips, we suggest that temporary wood strips especially designed for this purpose be positioned in the desired locations and removed after the topping has cured as outlined below:

After placing and screeding the under-bed to the desired elevation and while the under-bed materials are still in plastic stage, cut lines approximately 1 · inch deep into the surface at the desired joint locations. After the under-bed has hardened, the next day place and anchor special wood strips,  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch X · inch, aligned directly over the cut lines. Anchoring is suggested by means of using finishing nails through the wood into the cut line. This holds the strips straight during pouring of the topping.

Where it is necessary to position such a working joint, place a foam material of  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch thickness by the depth of the under-bed. Attach a special wood strip to this foam using a tape method. Be sure to cut all mesh 1 inch short of this type of joint. (See detail.)

Removal of the wood strips shall not be considered until several days after the pour of the topping, which depends on the weather and job conditions. With sufficient time, the wood will separate, providing ease of strip removal. Place a pourable joint sealant in these voids of the desired color. Tool joint to desired finish.

(Detail on next page)



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