



# NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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## RUSTIC TERRAZZO WITH VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

It is necessary to strengthen the slab and rustic terrazzo system wherever vehicle traffic is expected. Assuming that the area in question is placed over graded, compacted soil, the total thickness of the slab and the terrazzo system should be a minimum of 9 inches. The concrete slab requires a minimum 4,000 psi and the terrazzo system under-bed should be of equal strength.

The terrazzo topping should be bonded using an epoxy bonding agent at least 30 mils. in thickness. The topping should be of a minimum of  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch in thickness, using aggregate suitable to take the expected traffic load. The aggregate should be  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in size to provide proper anchoring. Smaller aggregate could become dislodged.

In a bonded system, the essential control joints can be positioned 6 to 8 ft. apart. It is not recommended that metal or plastic strips be used in such areas. In lieu of these, we suggest temporary wood filler be positioned to form the panel size. The wood strips used for this purpose should be pre-soaked and pre-waxed before installation to allow ease of removal. The created voids can then be grouted with a pourable sealant.

Where vehicle traffic is expected, it is essential that a permanent sealer be applied to the surface. This will prevent penetration of dripping oil or gas. It is recommended that a solvent-base clear aliphatic polyurethane sealer be used.

In cold climates, air entrainment additives should be incorporated into the concrete under-bed.

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