

ETCH & SEAL Clear Polyurea Instructions

UNPACKAGING

Unpackaging your product before application is necessary to ensure your install goes well. In many cases, your order will ship from multiple locations and in a small percentage of projects, an essential item may go missing or be damaged in transit. Checking everything ahead of time is important. We can not overnight most coating products. Make sure you keep extra supplies handy. Those include but are not limited to extra pails, gloves, roller covers, solvents for cleaning and a respirator is a must.

READ BEFORE INSTALLATION

Proper prep to the floor before applying your coating is essential in ensuring long lasting durability. If the prep is not done correctly, this can cause the coating to peel up.

You may receive more anti-skid additive than you need with your kit. We recommend using between 0.5-1 lb. of anti-skid additive per gallon of coating. 0.5 lb. per gallon is recommended for floors that are not expected to get wet often and where ease of cleaning is a priority. We recommend using the full 1 lb. per gallon for floors that are expected to get wet often and where safety is the main priority. Using the full 1 lb. does make the surface a bit harder to mop, but the floor can still be cleaned fairly easily. The anti-wear amount is given as a range on the instructions. It is important that you consider the safety of those using the garage, the environmental conditions, and ease of cleaning, before deciding how much to use.

Follow all safety precautions listed on the can. Work in a well-ventilated area during each step. Wear a NIOSH approved respirator, pants, long sleeves and gloves. Turn off any pilot lights and make sure no open flames are present during application. Make sure you have ventilation and maintain ventilation during the curing process. We are not saying you should leave your garage door wide open for three days, but some fresh air is necessary.

GENERAL

As with all coating guidelines, these steps are not meant to substitute for common sense and actual field experience. It is not possible to discuss every situation. Please contact Garage Flooring LLC at 800-956-4301 if you have additional questions. *Instructions provided online may be updated more frequently than the print version. Always verify this information with the current installation instructions on our website.*

PRODUCT ESTIMATION

GHOSTSHIELD ECO-ETCH:

The acid etch product included with your kit is designed to be diluted 1:1 with distilled water for most floors. After dilution, each gallon you receive will make 2 gallons. **For power troweled and super-smooth floors, we recommend applying the acid etch undiluted. Power-troweled floors may require more acid etch than your kit includes.** Make sure to double check the coverage and order additional etching material if needed.

For a medium etch on most concrete floors, each gallon after dilution will cover 250 sq ft, meaning each undiluted gallon will make enough material to etch up to 500 sq ft. Undiluted Eco-Etch for power troweled concrete will cover 250 sq ft per gallon.

CLEAR POLYUREA COATING:

The Polyurea in your kit is designed to cover 200 sq ft per gallon, and you should have exactly enough to cover your area based on the kit size you selected. **The Polyurea can be stretched up to 250 sq ft per gallon if needed, but do not apply more than 1 gallon per 200 sq ft.** Applying the product too thick can cause air bubble to form and cure into the coating, while applying it too thin can cause issues with peeling and staining from tires. Use 0.5-1 lbs. of anti-skid per gallon of Polyurea coating. Anti-skid should only be applied to the final coat.

STORAGE

Shelf life defines the total amount of time a product can sit on the shelf. Shelf life includes time spent in transit, time at the plant and time at distribution. We highly suggest using the product within 60 days of receipt, although if stored correctly will stay useable for about 10 months when left unopened. Store in temperature controlled environment in a well-sealed container. Do not allow to freeze.

After opening a can of Polyurea, the product will stay useable for up to 2 weeks if the lid is put back on tightly and stored in a temperature controlled area.

MOISTURE TESTING

A moisture test is an important step with a coating. A plastic sheet test can be effective; however for warranty purposes, a calcium chloride test with results under 3 is suggested.

CLEANING THE SURFACE

It is important that your concrete is free from oils, dirt, dust and other contaminants. We suggest All Weather Floors Industrial Cleaner. More stubborn oil stains may need to be removed using oil specific products.

PREP YOUR SURFACE (Required)

The objective of surface preparation is to provide a surface that the coating can bond to mechanically, meaning that the coating must soak into the concrete slightly to create a strong bond. A hard, smooth surface generally will not provide good adhesion. Slightly porous, rough surfaces provide better adhesion.

Always test a small area before application to ensure desired ratio, etch time, coverage rates and to verify application technique.

If coating a power-troweled floor, do not dilute the Eco-Etch product. For average concrete, dilute the Eco-Etch 1:1 with distilled water, making 2 gallons out of each 1 gallon.

First wet the surface of the floor with water. Apply Ghostshield Eco-Etch product using a low-pressure pump sprayer. Allow the solution to sit on the substrate for three (3) to ten (10) minutes. Flush thoroughly with clean water. You do not need to neutralize after using Eco-Etch 1001.

Clean equipment and tools with hot soapy water. Unused or old material may be disposed of in a waste disposal site in accordance with local, state and federal laws.

TEST YOUR PREP

After the floor has dried for some time after etching, use a spray bottle of water and spray the floor in several areas. Watch for how quickly the water soaks into the surface. If the water soaks in right away, your prep is done and you can start applying your Polyurea as soon as the floor has fully dried. If the water is not soaking in or taking a long time to soak in, you may need more prep in that area. **Make sure to test problem areas like spots where oil stains were removed from the floor.** If you are unsure about whether or not your floor has been prepped enough, call 800-956-4301 or email service@garageflooringllc.com for help determining if your floor is ready for a coating or not.

POLYUREA APPLICATION

You must wait until your floor is completely dry before applying the Polyurea. Moisture left in the floor while Polyurea is applied will eventually work its way up and can cause adhesion issues.

EVERYONE WORKING WITH THE PRODUCT MUST WEAR A NIOSH-APPROVED PAINT RESPIRATOR TO PROTECT FROM HARMFUL SOLVENT FUMES COMING FROM THE COATING DURING THE CURING PROCESS. **ALL IGNITION SOURCES IN THE GARAGE MUST BE TURNED OFF UNTIL 24 HOURS AFTER THE FINAL COAT IS APPLIED.**

If you are applying a 1-coat kit, mix your desired amount of anti-skid additive into your clear polyurea (0.5 – 1 lb. per gallon). **Make sure to mix either by hand or with a drill mixer on low speed. Mixing too quickly can introduce air bubbles into the coating or heat the coating and cause it to start curing too quickly.**

For a 2-coat application, do not mix anything into your first coat of clear polyurea. Mixing the material slowly before application is still required to ensure that the product has not separated in transit or storage.

The anti-skid additive will settle to the bottom of the bucket over time. Make sure to restir the product every time you pour more material out to ensure that the anti-skid is spread evenly throughout the coat.

Using a paint tray, wet your roller. Roll product onto the floor in small manageable areas. It helps to divide the floor up into measured sections to ensure that the product is spread at a rate of 200 sq ft per gallon. Use a solvent resistant chip brush to apply the product to any areas you cannot reach with a roller. You should achieve 200-250 sq. ft. per gallon coverage. Because the clear is harder to see, we suggest indirect lighting and working in sections.

The final coat will be installed using two rollers. The first roller will be used to apply the product from a paint tray, while the other roller will be used to backroll uneven spots or roller marks left by the first roller. Once you apply the clear to a section, roll over the section in the opposite direction with the other (dry) roller to smooth out any roller marks. Do not apply any pressure to the dry roller. We suggest changing roller covers every 400 sq. ft.

DO NOT APPLY PRODUCT TOO THICK OR YOU WILL HAVE SOLVENT BUBBLING THAT WILL SHOW THROUGH YOUR FINAL COAT.

Make sure you have ventilation and maintain ventilation during the curing process. We are not saying you should leave your garage door wide open for three days, but some fresh air is necessary.

For 1-Coat Applications: Once the floor has been covered, allow the product to cure for at least 24 hours above 50 degrees before walking on it again. After 72 hours of temperatures over 50 degrees, the coating will be fully cured and you can begin parking on the floor and putting furniture back onto it.

For 2-Coat Applications: Wait 4-6 hours for the first coat to cure. Within that time, the coating will become tack free. Once you can touch the coating with a gloved hand and do not stick to it or leave an impression, the coating is ready for the 2nd coat. **DO NOT EXCEED 20 HOURS BETWEEN COATS.** If the first coat is allowed to cure for longer than 20 hours, it will need to be sanded with 100-120 grit sandpaper and wiped with denatured alcohol in order for the 2nd coat to bond properly.

Once your first coat is tack-free, follow the above steps of mixing the anti-skid additive into your Polyurea for the 2nd coat. Apply the 2nd coat the same way that the first was applied, but make sure to restir the material in the bucket every time you pour more out to avoid the anti-skid settling to the bottom. Once you apply the clear to a section, roll over the section in the opposite direction with the other (dry) roller to smooth out any roller marks. Do not apply any pressure to the dry roller. We suggest changing roller covers every 400 sq. ft.

THE PRODUCT MUST CURE FOR 72 HOURS. IF YOU LIVE IN AN AREA WHERE IT IS COLD AT NIGHT, DO NOT COUNT NIGHTTIME HOURS TOWARDS THE 72 HOURS. Time between coats is also impacted by cold temperatures.