

All pictures here are numbered and found in full size in the raw pictures folder.

Some initial shots of the garage (this was a couple weeks after I painted. The white stuff is sanded drywall compound and spilled primer that I haven't gotten around to cleaning, not efflorescence. I had previously done a moisture test and the plastic sheet came up bone dry. I had also just received my shipment of a power washer that day and played around with it on the wet spot that you see.)

Pictures 1-6



The first step was to get all this crud cleaned out and the floor prepared. So I started by scraping the garage (7) then powerwashing (8). Some shots of the powerwashed results (9,



10).



After the floor was more or less clean of debris, I coated the entire floor with cleaner/degreaser (11), rinsed (12), then reapplied cleaner/degreaser to spots still stained (13), and finally rinsed



everything out (14-16). There was still one stubborn paint area that didn't want to go (17), but I was confident acid would help.



All ready to start the acid etch now. I got suited up (18), sprayed the acid (19), scrubbed it in (20), then neutralized it with baking soda and rinsed everything out, 8 times, including twice with a powerwasher. I included some shots of the powerwashed results as well (21-29). I took a lot

of photos and consulted with the manufacturer to be sure I had everything done correctly since my research advised me that this was the part that usually caused the most problems.









While I waited three days for my garage to thoroughly dry out, I created a makeshift workshop (30) on my patio to machine myself a pair of spiked shoes (31). I wasn't trying to be cheap ... but it just so happened that I forgot to order them, and no stores in a 50 mile radius carried them. At least, I used some decent plywood and stainless steel screws - they should be fine to carry my 180 pounds without trouble.



Next up, I needed to level out the garage. I found a possible metal anchor bolt sticking out (32) and some cement outcroppings (34) that I proceeded to apply an angle grinder to (33) along with a few other high spots.



Now that the high spots were taken care of, I then went on to fill in all the low spots with Epoxyshield concrete patcher. There were a lot of patches ... I think I went a little overboard and filled in every nook and cranny bigger than a square millimeter (35-39).





Finally, the day of the actual coating. I first sanded smooth all the patches (40), laid out all the gear, took apart the shipping boxes as a spill guard on my garage floor ledge (did you know the containers GarageFlooringLLC uses deconstructs to 1'x10' even? So convenient) (42), and took a last couple of looks at my unfinished floor (43).





I planned to divide my 20 x 20 garage into 5x5 squares for painting so I'd end up with 16 sections. Since I ordered 10 pounds of flake, I used a kitchen scale to measure out 10 ounces of flake for every section (45). I rolled (46) a section, then casted some flakes (47), before I

realized that despite what other DIY videos have suggested, I wasn't really happy with rolling the extra flakes under a new coat (48).





I wasn't planning to use my spiked shoes since I would just cast flakes section by section as I completed them, but I realized it was necessary so I gave up on what little fashion sense I had left and put on my spiked shoes (41), and only casted flakes on sections that were completely surrounded by coated floor (49).



Less than two hours after I started my first paintbrush stroke, I sprinkled the final flakes onto the garage floor (50), and took a look at the first coat (51).



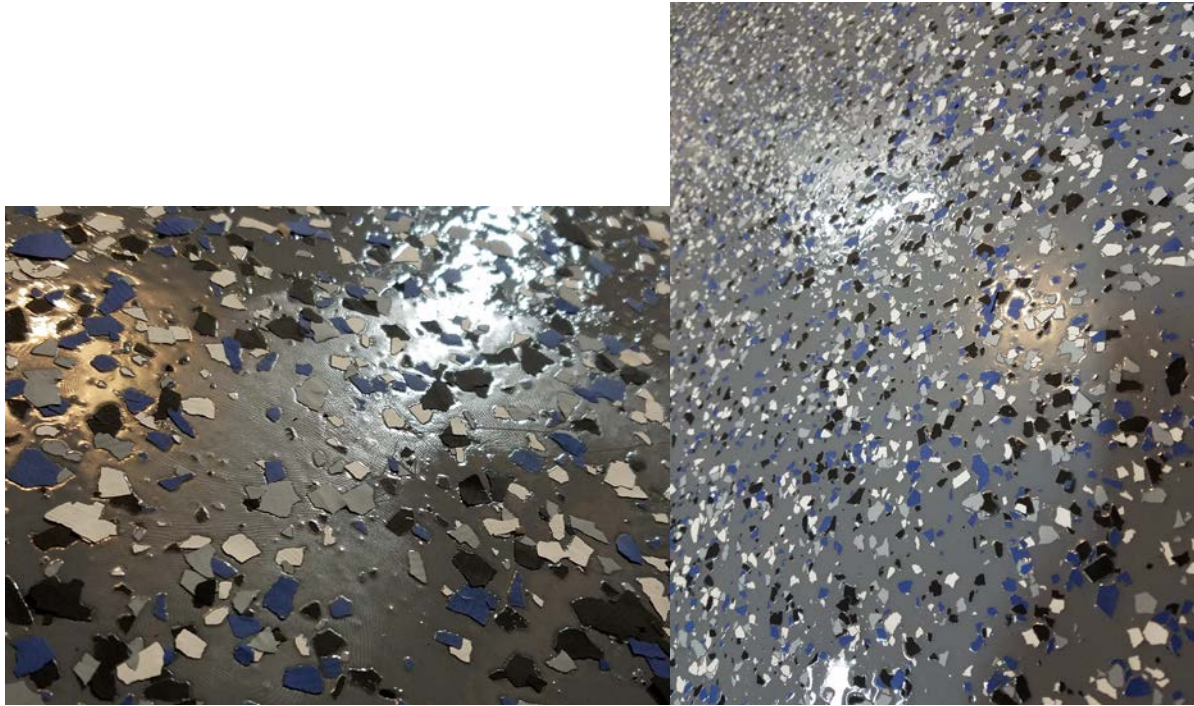
While waiting for the paint to dry (54), I taped up the garage door so debris and animals wouldn't find their way inside and get trapped (52), and cleaned out some stuff. Remember

those shoes that I said were fine and would support my weight? Guess they weren't (53) That explains why I slipped and almost fell a few times ... or maybe the other way around.



So the instructions said recoat time between 2-6 hours, but light foot traffic at 8-12 hours. The manufacturer mentioned that he would coat on the very high end of that time, so I waited 7 hours and attempted to walk onto the floor barefoot to check if it was ready. Nope (55). Guess I don't count as "light." Man, this product is really bruising my ego today, so I took another close up shot and waited a couple more hours. (56)





After I determined the floor was solid enough for me to step on, I lightly ran a paint scraper through the floor and then swept out the loose flakes and the ones that were sticking up instead of lying flat.

To prepare for the top coat, I added antiskid to the clear (57), only about half a cup since my garage is never wet. I then started to trim and roll (58, 59), except there's really nothing to show since everything's ... well ... clear. As a sidenote, the instructions should probably mention that it's REALLY hard to see the clear layer. Even with some fairly bright overhead lighting, it was 98% invisible to me, and I had to almost guess where I last rolled and where my trim finished. Of course, the fault mostly lies with me since I \*knew\* it was going to be clear, but I thought at least I'd be able to check the glare and see where I painted ... nope. Took a shot of everything all done (60), and a close up of the wet clear on solid gray (61). If I were to do this again, I'd either lay the first coat very late in the evening, or very early in the morning instead of in the early afternoon. This way I'd have lots of natural light to see where the clear coat goes.



Cleaning things up the next day, the product actually peels off the home depot buckets very easily (62). However, reviewing things, I discovered to my dismay that I had applied too much clearcoat in a few areas (63) and dripped it in another place (64). Rather than drying clear, the thick clearcoat created a bunch of bubbles and looked almost like foam.







After talking with the manufacturer, I proceeded to sand the clearcoat down until I hit gray, hoping that I'd take care of all the air bubbles (64, 65, 66). Unfortunately, the bubbles pierced through to the gray coat even, so in sanding, I actually sanded through to the concrete floor. I proceeded to wipe away the sanding dust (67). Still bubbly. The floor strength is incredible. I went through more sandpaper getting just a 128th of an inch layer of polyurea off than I did refinishing my entire garage walls and ceiling.

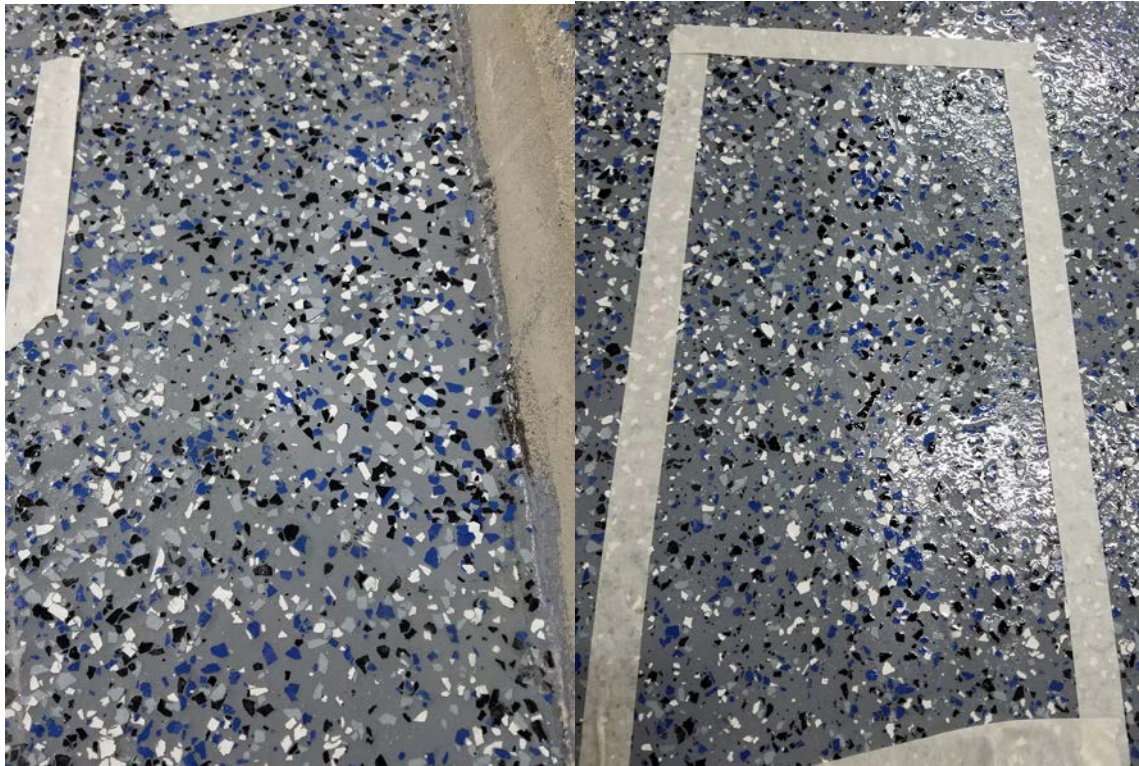




However, this gave me the idea to just simply redo the entire system. After all, I still had some quantities of both components left over along with half a bag of flakes ... This was when I discovered I should've been more careful with putting the excess away the day before. They weren't kidding when they extolled the strength ratios of the polyurea - I had to completely wreck the container to open the lid which I closed sloppily yesterday (68). Now, with access to the product again, I went and recoated the problem areas in gray taking care to spread it out evenly as possible over sanded areas (69), then applied some flakes to the gray (70, 71).



After waiting 4 hours (this time squarely in the middle of the recoat window), I reapplied the clear (72, 73). Hooray for not needing to step on the gray to apply the clear. Despite the patches being applied a full day later, it's very hard to tell that there was any modification.





Finally, the garage is done (74, 75), and a closeup shot of the finished floor (76).





