

How can I make my stamped colored concrete look like when it was new?

This is a common question that we receive two or three times a day. I believe that the reason this is a common problem is because when the stamped concrete is installed, the concrete contractor does not provide instructions on how to maintain the concrete, how often it needs to be sealed and how to clean it.



The following will provide you with three options that you have to restore your concrete.

First things First:

1. Stamped concrete needs to be sealed every 18 to 24 months to maintain the appearance of your concrete. It does not matter where you live in the United States. The sealer breaks down over time and needs to be renewed in order to provide protection and maintain appearances.
2. Never wash your stamped concrete with a pressure washer. Pressure washing removes some of the sealer every time you pressure wash. This will deteriorate the sealer and shorten its life. If it needs to be cleaned, use SealGreen Oil Cleaner Degreaser and rinse with a garden hose with a strong stream.
3. If the stamped concrete is neglected the protection layer (sealer) will be gone and the color will start fading. Without protection the concrete will eventually start pitting and cracking.
4. Once the stamped concrete starts to pit it is not possible to fill the pits without making the stamped concrete look bad. The repairs will always show as the concrete will be a different mix with a different finish.
5. The options offered below will not correct every problem but will make the pits less visible and will beautifully restore your stamped concrete.

What do I do to restore?

Test



You need to do a test to see if the sealer is no longer reactive to new coats of sealer. This is a simple pass or fail test. You can purchase the test kit at <https://sealgreen.com/e15-epoxy-stamped-concrete-sealer/> Application video - https://youtu.be/fstqxtbNq_8

Test Pass

Restore Sealer Only Option One

If the test passed and the old sealer is restored by applying our SealGreen E15 Epoxy Stamped Concrete Sealer, the only thing you need to do is wash the concrete and seal the floor twice. Sealer information - <https://sealgreen.com/e15-epoxy-stamped-concrete-sealer/> Application video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DmmMeDMFT1Y&t=2s>

Test Fails

If the sealer is no longer reactive to new sealer, then you have two choices to restore your stamped concrete.

Restore Color and Sealer Option Two

Wash the stamped concrete with our SealGreen Oil Cleaner Degreaser - <https://sealgreen.com/oil-cleaner-degreaser-concentrate/> , allow to dry then apply color stain from our color chart - <https://sealgreen.com/color-stains/> , allow to dry for at least 24 hours, and seal twice with SealGreen E15 Epoxy Stamped Concrete Sealer. This is a fast solution to restore the color and shine to your concrete. The only warning about using this process is that since you are applying color stain and sealer over an old sealer it may peel in some areas. This can be easily fixed by repeating the wash/stain/seal process on the affected area only.

Restore Color and Sealer Option Three

Strip the sealer with SealGreen SCR1600 - <https://sealgreen.com/scr1600-coatings-remover-with-oil-cleaner-degreaser/> , then wash with SealGreen Oil Cleaner Degreaser - <https://sealgreen.com/oil-cleaner-degreaser-concentrate/> , allow to dry and then apply color stain from our color chart - <https://sealgreen.com/color-stains/> , allow to dry for at least 24 hours and seal twice with SealGreen E15 Epoxy Stamped Concrete Sealer - <https://sealgreen.com/e15-epoxy-stamped-concrete-sealer/> . This is a more laborious solution but will provide longer lasting results.

Final Note

No matter which option you choose, your stamped concrete will still require a sealer application every 18 to 24 months. If you provide us with the square footage of your project we can provide a product quote.

At **SealGreen** our team has worked very hard to provide DIY solutions. We have complete documentation, videos, email and phone support available at <https://sealgreen.com/diy-videos-training/> or visit our YouTube SEALGREENTV channel - <https://www.youtube.com/user/sealgreenTV>