

## WHAT TYPE OF SEALER TO CHOOSE?

Durability of a floor depends on many factors: Traffic, maintenance and the type of sealer originally installed. This is where EUROfloors' expertise comes in. **What type of sealer to install?** Beware! All sealers are transparent, but none of them are the same! EUROfloors would be glad to advise. There is a sealer for each type of budget and each type of floor. Most important is to use the right type of sealer for the right application. There is no need to put an expensive aliphatic urethane sealer in a low traffic area. Know what type of traffic you expect so EUROfloors can help you selecting the correct type of sealer for your application without going over budget needlessly. **Please refer to the table on next page.**

## SEALERS: BASE PROTECTION

The sealer is applied directly on top of the stained concrete. The sealer is the base coat that protects the stained concrete. Some sealers are designed to be used together with a top coating. Others work fine as a stand-alone product. *EUROfloors will be glad to advise you.*

## GOING GREEN? WATERBASED VERSUS SOLVENT BASED:

Sealers are either water-based (low odor) or solvent based (high odor). Either system has its advantages and disadvantages. How "green" does your installation have to be? What are the VOC requirements? How about drying times? What is your budget?

## TOP COATINGS: ADDITIONAL PROTECTION

Top coatings or floor finishes are also referred to as "Floor Wax". Top coatings are mostly designed for INTERIOR use. Most top coatings are specifically designed as a sacrificial top coat. This means they are designed to protect the sealer from the main abuse of the traffic. Top coatings are designed to be replaced periodically. Average durability: 2,000 people per day for 3 months. After the final coat of finish is applied, light to normal foot traffic may resume in 24 hours. The additional advantage is that top coatings are easily repairable. Top coatings can be buffed with a highspeed or lowspeed buffing machine, giving the floor a nice overall shine and extra protection as the buffing process hardens the topcoat. Periodically you can apply an additional top coating with a mop.

## IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND:

- A: *Keep your floors protected during the remainder of the construction process. Use Red Rosin paper, builderspaper, cardboard or foamboard. Do not use plastics. Sealer must be able to breathe.*
- B: *EUROfloors cannot be held liable for scratches in the floor after the installation of the sealer. Ask about our reduced rates on recoating.*
- C: *Do NOT apply tape directly to the floor / sealer. This might damage the sealer. Full tensil strength not reached untill a few weeks upon completion of the project.*
- D: *Sealing systems can be combined to achieve the desired effect. Please consult EUROfloors for more information.*

# EUROfloors

## SEALERS & TOP COATINGS

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#	Durability: (scale 1-10)	For use in:	Interior / Exterior	Appearance	Gloss level	Locations used:	VOC levels (smell)	Thickness (mils.)	Chemical resistance	Sealer Type:	Curing time @ 75° F	Cost:
1	3	Residential	Interior & Exterior	smooth appearance	medium-gloss & high gloss	Patio, driveway, basements	high	5 mils	low	Solvent based 25% solids acrylic	12 hrs.	\$
2	3	<b>On top of any sealer as sacrificial wearcoat / topcoat</b>	Interior	smooth appearance	high gloss & wetlook	Residential & all buffable floors: hallways, supermarkets	low	6 mils	low	Waterbased 25% solids urethane re-inforced floorfinish.	8 hrs.	\$
3	4	Residential	Interior & Exterior	full-body appearance, slight orange peel effect	high gloss	Basement, patio, driveway	low	6 mils	low	Water based, 25% solids acrylic	8 hrs.	\$\$
4	6	Light Commercial	Interior	full-body appearance, slight orange peel effect	Medium-gloss	Restaurant, gallery, retail	low	10 mils	medium	Water based 35% solids epoxy	18 hrs.	\$\$\$
5	7	Commercial	Interior	smooth as glass, thick installation with a lot of depth	Wetlook	Garage, restaurant, gallery, retail	low	25 mils	high	100% solids high-build epoxy	10 hrs.	\$\$\$\$
6	8	Industrial	Interior	Smooth with medium depth	high gloss	Dancefloor, hair salons, food prep.	high	7 mils	extra high	Solventbased 45% Aliphatic Urethane	96 hrs.	\$\$\$
7	8	Industrial	Interior	full-body appearance, slight orange peel effect	Satin medium gloss High gloss	Dancefloor, hair salons, food prep.	low	7 mils	extra high	Water based 45% Aliphatic Urethane	96 hrs.	\$\$\$
8	10	Industrial	Interior	Smooth as glass, thick installation with a lot of depth	Wetlook	Garage, restaurant, gallery, retail	low	25 mils	Ultra high	100% solids high-build urethane	10 hrs.	\$\$\$\$\$
9	10	Industrial	Interior	full-body appearance, slight orange peel effect	Satin	Garage, restaurant, gallery, retail	low	12 mils	Ultra high	Waterbased 50% solids poly-aspartic	72 hrs.	\$\$\$