





# VERTICAL CONCRETE MIX

Cementitious Vertical Overlay

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

### SURFACE PREPARATION

All substrates must be free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, paints, glues, sealers, or any other contaminant that may serve as a bond breaker.

**Concrete & Masonry:** Thoroughly power wash & prime surface with *DC Sure Bond 100\**.

**Drywall:** Prime with *DC Sure Bond 100\**. When applying DC Vertical Mix thicker than 1", it is recommended to use lath prior to the scratch coat.

**Plywood:** All plywood applications require Tar Paper & lath.

**Styrofoam:** Prime with *DC Sure Bond 100\** & apply *DC DuraCast Backer Mix* as the scratch coat.

### PRIMING

Any substrate not containing Tar Paper & lath should be primed with *DC Sure Bond 100\**. It is also recommended to apply primer between coats. Apply primer using a pump-up style sprayer. Keep a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " nap roller to soak up excess primer from surface.

**Scratch Coat:** DC Vertical Concrete Mix may be used as the scratch coat or Type-S mortar mix. Apply scratch coat  $\frac{1}{8}$ "– $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick & scarify with grooves running horizontally. Allow scratch coat to harden before applying carve/stamp coat. A thicker scratch coat may be required for final applications greater than  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " thick.

### MIXING

A heavy duty bucket mixer is required. Handheld mixers will work fine for smaller projects. However mortar or auto mixers are recommended for larger jobs. Start with 4.75–5 qt. of water in the mixing vessel. Add one full bag of DC Vertical Mix to water & mix for 2 mins. Scrape the sides of the vessel with a margin trowel & mix for an additional minute. Allow product to false set for 3 mins., then remix. If desired consistency is not achieved, up to an additional 8 oz. of water may be added.

**\*DC Surebond 100 should be mixed 1:1 with water (1 part Surebond, 1 part water).**



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### APPLICATION

Apply by hand throwing, mortar sprayer, or hawk & trowel.

**Drive Coat:** The first layer should be applied thinly to fill up the grooves in the scratch coat. When applying this layer, keep plenty of pressure on the trowel so it drives the mix all the way into the grooves. This will eliminate air pockets behind the mix. In most cases, it works best to have at least two installers so the layers can be applied in a wet-on-wet fashion.

**Carve/Stamp Coat:** This layer should be applied to the final desired thickness. Use a pool trowel to smooth out the surface of the mix.

**Stamping:** The mix needs to have firmed but still be plastic enough to obtain & hold desired texture, grout lines, effects, etc. *Deco-Crete Liquid Release* is required for all stamping applications of DC Vertical Concrete Mix.

**Hand Carving:** Utilizing tools found at [deco-cretesupply.com](http://deco-cretesupply.com), create a light texture on the surface. Use a pointing trowel to lay out desired pattern. As the mix continues to harden a variety of hand tools may be used to carve & refine your desired creation.

**Staining:** It is recommended to use water-based acrylic stains for all applications.

**Sealing:** It is recommended to use *Deco-Crete D-Shield Clear* for all sealing applications.

### PRO TIPS

- + During Drive Coat make sure you're driving the mix all the way into the grooves & getting the next layer on quickly. This helps keep the mix on the wall while stamping/carving by creating a solid long-term bond between the coats.
- + Mix consistency is another crucial factor in helping keep the mix on the wall. A mix that is too dry will want to fall off, too wet & it will tend to sag. You should be able to grab a handful of mix, turn your hand sideways (vertically aligning it) & it should not fall off or run through your fingers.
- + Once the mix is on the wall & you have it spread out, avoid overworking the material. Doing so can cause the mix to bubble on the surface & the more you mess with it, the more it will tend to sag.
- + Cover with plastic on hot & windy days to reduce cracking
- + Use reference photos of what your trying to accomplish during carving.

It is always recommended to test the product in a small, inconspicuous area (on the same substrate) for desired results prior to application. Coverage rates may vary for all coatings & substrates depending on porosity, density, texture, etc.

## STORAGE, PACKAGING & SHELF LIFE

- + Store in a dry, covered area. Avoid moisture & direct sun | Indefinite Shelf Life



For tutorials & even more decorative concrete content,  
follow the QR code here or find us on social media.



[www.deco-cretesupply.com](http://www.deco-cretesupply.com)