

Shuffleboard

Court Painting and Lining

At **IDOMD** we have attempted to assemble the current information on how to paint and line outdoor Floor Shuffleboard Courts. We are not experts at this and consequently have culled this information from various sources, mostly from the US. Before reading on please keep this in mind: ***build, paint and line your courts according to local climate conditions AND take into the account the quality and amount of on-going maintenance that will be performed on your courts.***

We carry the liquid court wax sealer, disc wax and glass beads, and a stencil to help mark the lines but we do not carry any paints, stains or tools to perform these tasks. If this is not a do-it-yourself project you can find businesses who can help under the following Yellow Pages headings: Parking Area Maintenance and Marking; Pavement Marking; Floor; and General Contractors.

What works in Florida may not withstand a Canadian climate with the associated temperature extremes. The concrete itself, as well as the marked surface, will suffer greater wear and tear. It is with this in mind that we often recommend that Canadian courts don't necessarily have to be greened. If this is preferred then only greening the scoring area could be an option.

The most recommended stains are from Sherwin Williams. Known as "H&C Concrete Stain" they are available in Canada and the US. For US information call #1-800 TO-STAIN (867-8246) and for the local Canadian distributor contact (#) 905-507-0166. Advise the local store if it is a new or pre-painted court and then follow the directions on the containers for application. Never use an enamel paint to mark your courts. The discs simply will not slide. Another option is to use a good grade Latex paint to line the court. Latex will wear but won't chip and peel. (We've been told that the white paint is use to line our roads and highways also works well). Always mark a test area first to ensure different paints and stains mix properly and that your discs will work on the court.

Below are instructions provided directly from the Ontario Shuffleboard Association (OSA). The overriding concern, according to the OSA, is to ***protect the surface of your court!*** They also stress that ***keeping water away form the court*** is the number one concern for the court's longevity. This is best accomplished by using Nella-Seal liquid wax to protect and seal the court. Mr. Sandy Myers suggests the following:

Reduce 1st coat of H&C 20%, with Xylene, which is the vehicle in the stain to soak into the concrete. Then put two coats of stain on top. Lines should be painted with H&C white stain as it is the same base and also does not leave a bump due to stain thickness. If done this way it will withstand the weather but only if protected with Nella-Seal.

When painted, at least two coats of Nella-Seal (not too heavy) are applied, with a day in-between for curing. On-going maintenance involves putting two coats on in Spring, one coat during Summer and 2 coats in Fall.

The sealer is the most important part. You should always be playing on the sealer never on the paint. Each time you put the sealer on you should wash and rinse the courts, first with water and then with a small amount of Spic and Span to remove the grime.

Maintenance

Efflorescence: Water from the interior of the concrete migrates to the surface and evaporates, depositing salts on the surface which appear as a white stain.



Cross-section of concrete showing contamination from laitance, efflorescence or atmospheric pollutants.

Oils, grease, wax, etc: Contaminants such as curling sprays, waterproofing sealers and form-release coating have a tendency to penetrate deep into the surface of the concrete. This may require deep surface profiling, such as mechanically sanding or scarifying.



Cross-section of concrete showing contamination from substances such as oils, grease, wax, etc.

Atmospheric pollution: Includes salts from seawater, road salt, acid rain, grime and other air-laden industrial contaminants.



Cross-section of concrete after acid etching or rotary drum sander profiling.

Concrete Hardeners: (Metallic silicate solutions), will usually appear glossy and cannot be scratched with a coin. Hardened concrete cannot be successfully coated unless special methods are used to prepare the surface.



Cross-section of concrete after scarifying or mechanically scratching this surface.

Surface Preparation:

There are numerous methods of preparing problem concrete surfaces, each depending on the specific problem that needs fixing.

Whatever the problem, there are two critical factors that determine a good surface.

First, the surface must be clean of dirt, chemicals and all other contaminants.

Second, the surface must be rough enough, and have a high enough surface profile (miniature ridges and valleys), to form a successful bond.

A simple and effective way to check your concrete is to do a test area. If the test is successful, your project has a good chance for success also. If your concrete test fails, you will need further surface preparation.

Cleaning and profiling The Surface:

Here are some of today's methods to clean and profile a concrete surface:

Step 1: Cleaning

This can be achieved by a combination of methods, including sweeping vacuuming, wire brushing, air-blast cleaning, high-pressure water jetting, trisodium phosphate (4 ozs./gallon of hot water), steam cleaning and other industrial strength detergent cleaners. The latter two methods are the most commonly used for removing surface oil, grease, fat and waxes-prior to profiling. (Some industrial strength grade cleaners contain fragrances and pine oil, which can interfere with the adhesion of a coating.)

Step 2: Profiling

Acid Etching should only be attempted after all dirt, oil and grease has been removed. Muriatic acid is the most commonly used acid for concrete etching. Pre-wet with water prior to applying etching solutions. Free-standing water should be removed, and the acid solution applied to the surface by the way of a polyethylene sprinkler can.