STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

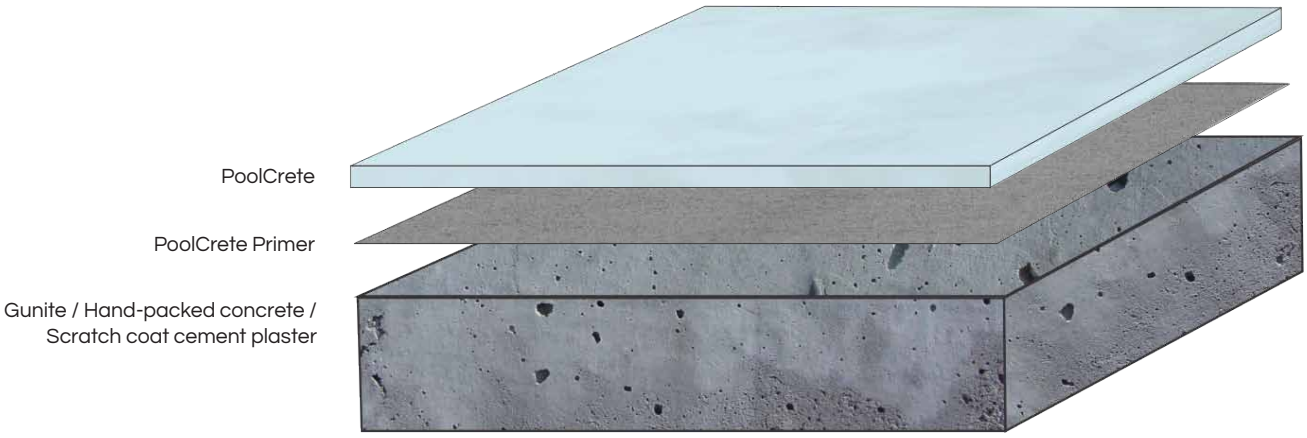
PoolCrete



What do you need:

Tools & Consumables	Products	Difficulty
• Sandpaper • Masking tape • Rounded pool trowel • Mechanical mixer (recommended) • 200L drum cut in half as mixing container (recommended)	• Hydrochloric Acid • PoolCrete Primer • FlexBond • PoolCrete	★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

The system:



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Remove all existing layers of aged pool plaster before applying PoolCrete to existing pools requiring resurfacing. Suitable surfaces include gunite, hand-packed concrete or scratch coat cement plaster that has cured for 28 days. Must not contain blast furnace slag as this could cause mottling of the PoolCrete. All surfaces should be true in plane, hard and slightly rough (i.e. scratch plaster type finish) to form a mechanical key.



Dirty surfaces, particularly on the floor, should be pre-dampened and then acid-washed and vigorously brushed and flushed with plenty of clean water. To ensure the neutralization of the surface we recommend that the surface is washed with a solution made up of 1 cup of sodium bicarbonate to 10 litres of water and then rinsed with clean water again.



It is recommended for new or old pools to be slushed with FlexBond and PoolCrete Primer the day before application, to help restrict slagment stains coming through the plaster as well as ghosting.



Set up sun and wind barriers prior to the application of PoolCrete to avoid premature moisture loss and plaster shrinkage.



It is preferable to mix in suitably sized plastic drums using a mortar mixer or hand mixed on a board or tarpaulin outside the pool. Mixing inside the pool increases the risk of plaster discolouration, separation or debonding as a result of mix water saturating the substrate prior to plastering.



Maximum water content per 40kgs of PoolCrete must not exceed 6 to 7 litres. Mix PoolCrete with clean water to a stiff workable plaster mix (±5mm slump). The mixed plaster must look almost too stiff.

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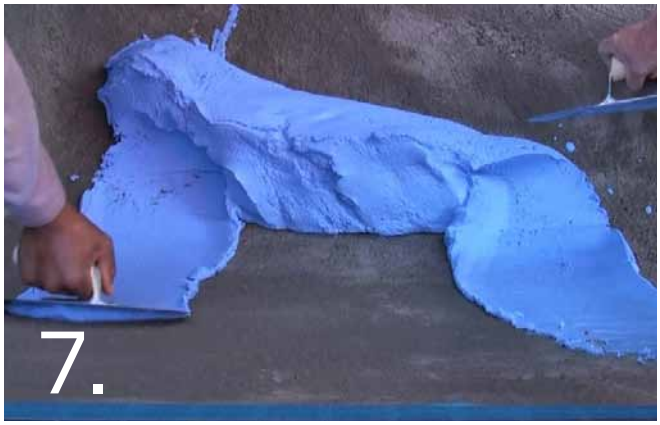

Apply PoolCrete 6mm thick with flexible rounded steel trowels. Apply the first layer, forcing the material tightly against the surface. The first layer is followed immediately by a second trowel with more material to an application not exceeding 6mm. It is easier to plaster the walls first & continue onto the floor.



Use a 6mm gauge to check thickness (a thin nail marked at 6mm with masking tape can be used).



Finish around fittings.



When almost set, final trowelling should take place. Wear bags around shoes to avoid leaving shoe prints in the plaster.



Allow to stiffen for approximately 30 min, depending on the weather, & re-trowel to smooth out ridges & trowel marks. Avoid splattering additional water onto the PoolCrete surface as this will result in colour variation.



The surface can be polished to a very smooth finish when biscuit-hard. Always complete plastering in one day to avoid dry joints.

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Clean all mosaics, tiles and surrounds.



Filling of the pool can commence ±6 to 8 hours after plastering has been completed depending on ambient temperatures & relative humidity where plastering has been completed early afternoon. Where this is not the case & the plastering is completed late afternoon or early evening it is recommended that the filling process commences the morning following the application.



Commence filling the pool from the deep end. We recommend the use of a deflector on the end of the hosepipe to prevent damage to the surface. Fill the pool in one go to avoid a water ring from forming. Damp down the exposed PoolCrete every hour to prevent premature drying. Protect the plaster from staining (particularly from mud splashes) until the pool is filled.



Do not introduce an automatic cleaner to the pool for 3 weeks. During this period use the pool brush only. See the detailed PoolCrete Start-Up Guide available on www.cemcrete.co.za.

Important Information:

- The correct amount of PoolCrete needed for the application must be calculated BEFORE commencing the application.
- Ensure that the substrate is integrally sound, dry, smooth, level and free of dust and laitance of any form.
- Holes and loose areas should be properly repaired before the application of PoolCrete.
- The pool structure should contain no slagment as this may migrate to the surface causing a grey cloudy effect in the PoolCrete.
- The temperature should be considered before plastering commences.
- Add the correct amount of water - too much water will weaken the finish.
- Mix all the PoolCrete for the application at once - do not mix and apply in stages, this will cause mottling.
- Plaster the pool in one day.
- Ensure that prior to the application of PoolCrete, all tools are clean and free of mortar build-up. Trowel edges to be smooth and free of defects.
- Final trowelling should be done using a damp, clean trowel to avoid black burn marks on white & light coloured PoolCrete.
- Do not attempt to patch.
- Ensure that all irrigation systems are switched off during and after the application of PoolCrete until the pool is filled with water.
- Do not interrupt the supply of water during the filling process. The supply of water should only be stopped when the pool is completely filled to avoid a water ring from forming.