



## Caring for Your Newly Stained Concrete Floor

To prolong the life of your newly stained concrete floor, NewLook recommends keeping the surface protected with (multiple) coats of **SmartSeal™** or other NewLook-approved sealers. It is also common to apply a wax finish over the sealer, especially for indoor and countertop applications. Wax is a sacrificial layer that can be more convenient to replace and maintain.

Protecting stained concrete with a sealer or wax finish will help repel dirt and prevent damage to the stain. However, it does not eliminate the need for periodic maintenance. And maintenance procedures and schedules are dependent on wear and tear.

For interior concrete floors subject to light traffic, maintenance is usually a simple matter of dry dust mopping and occasional wet mopping with the NewLook **Concrete Cleaner™**.

If stained floors begin to lose their luster or shine, re-sealing or re-waxing can help revive the appearance. In a typical residential setting, it may be necessary to re-seal and/or re-wax the floor after a year or more.

For commercial applications with heavier traffic, it may be necessary to reapply a sealer and/or wax at more frequent intervals. Frequent high-pressure washing or more aggressive cleaning measures with the NewLook Concrete Cleaner or **Concrete Degreaser™** may also be necessary where traffic conditions are heavier or extreme. However, sealer will need to be re-applied more often when pressure washed. Note: improper pressure-washing methods can damage concrete and its surface coatings.

For exterior stained concrete, keep the surface clean by sweeping it with a broom or leaf blower or rinsing with a garden hose. To remove stubborn dirt, scrub with a mop or medium-bristle brush and the NewLook Concrete Cleaner. To keep exterior surfaces protected, apply a new coat(s) of SmartSeal or other NewLook-approved sealer every year or two, or as necessary. When you begin to notice that water no longer beads up on the surface, it is most likely time to reseal. Stained concrete countertops will have different protection and maintenance needs than walking surfaces.

**Important:** Sealing a stained concrete surface does NOT prevent it from exposure to wear and tear. Do not assume that the presence of a sealer or wax finish means the surface is exempt from maintenance.

### **Additional Tips and Suggestions:**

- Use felt patches or other scratch-resistant material under chair legs
- Avoid using roller chairs with sharp ridges
- Use natural material floor mats or rugs in entrances and high traffic areas
- Avoid flexible vinyl mats
- Wipe up spills immediately with a damp cloth
- Avoid using or spilling strong oxidizers (chlorine-based cleaners), solvents, oils, vinegar or acid
- Never apply tape directly to the floor
- Do not drag heavy appliances or furniture over the floor