

Specifying Coloured Concrete

When specifying decorative coloured concrete it is necessary to include the following information.

- 1. The nominated pigment colour** e.g. Colourmix Terracotta.
- 2. The concrete strength** e.g. 20MPa, 25MPa, 32MPa etc.
- 3. The number and size of pre-weighed bags per cubic metre of concrete.** This is determined by the strength of concrete. For example, 2 x 10kg bags (20kg) of Colourmix Terracotta are required per cubic meter of 25MPa concrete. Concrete strengths in excess of 32MPa will require additional pigment per cubic metre of concrete. Specific information can be obtained by discussing your requirements with your local Colourmix representative.
- 4. The cement colour** i.e. grey or off-white. Grey cement is typically more economical and more readily available which is why our standard Colourmix colours have been designed for grey cement. However, all Colourmix pigments are suitable for use in off-white cement. Precast concrete companies commonly make use of the benefits of off-white cement when producing architectural precast concrete.
- 5. Whether a special concrete mix has to be used.** For example, when specifying a honed finish you may wish to nominate a special aggregate e.g. Cowra white. It is important to speak with your local pre-mixed concrete supplier when considering a special mix design. They will be able to advise the availability and cost of the raw materials and additives that are available in your area.
- 6. The type of finish required** i.e. broom, exposed aggregate, coving trowel, honed, sandblasted, etched etc. This is where as much description as possible is needed. For example, when specifying a broom finish you must nominate whether a light, medium or heavy broom finish is required. This will not only affect the look of the concrete but also the level of slip resistance.
- 7. Whether the concrete surface is to be sealed and the type of sealer** i.e. a surface or penetrating sealer; acrylic or polyurethane etc. Remember that sealers can influence the surface colour and also the slip resistance characteristics of the concrete.

Specific information relating to you project can be obtained by discussing your requirements with your local Colourmix representative.

It is recommended that a representative sample be prepared and completed with the preferred raw materials and finishing technique(s) by the appointed concrete applicator or precast concrete manufacturer. This sample should then be approved by the concrete specifier before the initial pour commences.

Not all pigments will cost the same. For example in our current range Colourmix Atlantic and Colourmix Monsoon are premium products. Please feel free to contact us for indicative pricing of these or any other colour.

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