



One-of-a-Kind Color for Flooring, Countertops, Patios and More!  
Affordable, DIY Option for Beautifully Unique Concrete Finishes.



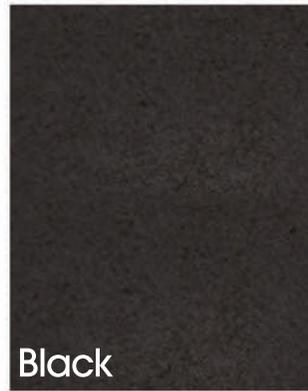
English Red



Avocado



Azure Blue



Black



Sea Grass



Desert Amber



Coffee Brown



Malayan Buff



Cola



Shifting Sand



# Concrete Acid Stain Technical Data

Color	First Appearance	Final Appearance	Minimum Reaction Time
Azure Blue	Light Blue	Robin's Egg Blue	4-6 Hours
Coffee Brown	Green/Brown	Dark Brown	4-6 Hours
English Red	Green/Brown	Reddish Brown	4-6 Hours
Avocado	Green/Brown	Green/Yellow	4-6 Hours
Malayan Buff	Green/Black	Golden Tan	8 Hours
Cola	Green/Brown	Brownish Red	4-6 Hours
Black	Dark Brown	Black	4-6 Hours
Shifting Sand	Green/Brown	Greenish Tan	4-6 Hours
Sea Grass	Green/Brown	Greenish Brown	4-6 Hours

**Product Descriptions and Uses:** Concrete Acid Stains are designed to enhance new and existing concrete surfaces by adding decorative and unique shades of color. The variegated and translucent color effects resulting from the unique formulation of blended metallic salts in a water-based slightly acidic solution create a variety of earth tone colors similar to the oxidation of a copper roof or the patina of a bronze sculpture. Acid stain lightly etches, penetrates and permanently alters the color of the concrete. Because of the chemical reaction between the cement and the stain, acid stained floors are more durable and offer greater abrasion resistance than surfaces coated with a topical acrylic stain or concrete paint which will peel, chip and wear off entirely over time.

Acid stain is a great choice for concrete floors, patios, countertops, driveways, walkways, pool decks and concrete decor. One of the best characteristics of Concrete Acid Stain is its ability to infuse concrete with rich, deep color tones. Depending on the color and application techniques used, the results can mimic everything from polished marble to natural stone or even stained wood and no two projects are alike! Acid Stains can also be used successfully on other cement-based materials including, but not limited to, self-leveling and other topping systems, gunite, plaster, stucco, shotcrete and limestone.

For testing and smaller projects, try our Small Concrete Acid Stain Sample Kit which includes 4 oz. of all 10 stains and a sample of DCI Water Based Concrete Sealer. For larger projects, select our Large Concrete Acid Stain Kit. Each kit includes 10 quart size containers.

Direct Colors' DIY Concrete Acid Stain Kit for Homeowners has everything needed for a 200 sq. ft. concrete acid stain project. For something slightly larger, each Concrete Acid Stain Add-On Kit will clean, stain and seal an additional 200 sq. ft. per add-on kit.

**Limitations and Restrictions:** Direct Colors Concrete Acid Stain Color Chart represents stain colors when applied to Portland gray concrete and should serve as a guide to the range colors possible with this product. Test areas or samples are always recommended prior to the actual project application as they may differ significantly from the color chart. Acid Stains should not be used to hide or cover any blemishes or errors in construction. In certain cases, the stains may emphasize existing finishing marks or blemishes in concrete in an unexpected or undesirable manner.

Concrete Acid Stains require varying activation times to achieve optimal color depth and development. Color appearance will change from the initial application to the

final post-neutralized and cleaned end result. Acid stained concrete should always be viewed when wet for accurate color evaluation. Acid Stain can produce a wide variety of finished colors depending on many factors including, but not limited to, age and quality of the existing concrete, concrete mix design, finishing techniques, curing practices, base concrete colors and surface porosity. Avocado, Sea Grass and Azure Blue Acid Stain Colors are copper-based stains and will patina to a dark brown or black if placed in contact with water after sealing. These stains are recommended for indoor use only and should not be applied to wet or damp surfaces as this will produce a black or brown spotted appearance unless that is the desired finish. Acid Stains can produce uneven or molten color effects. This is not considered to be a defect, but is the defining characteristic of this staining method.

**Surface Preparation:** Proper surface preparation is critical to success with any acid staining project. Concrete quality will vary from one slab or concrete decor piece to another. Test samples help determine if the surface can be successfully acid stained and assist with choosing the best colors for your project. Always conduct a small test area to evaluate reactivity and color development before beginning a project.

When preparing to stain, do not use an acid wash or muriatic acid to clean the surface as this will render the concrete unstainable by dissolving the minerals in the concrete necessary to produce a reaction. For smoother concrete that does readily absorb water, sand the surface prior to staining with a 100-grit mesh or paper or chemically profile using DCI Hard Troweled Floor Prep to open the pores for better reactivity and color development. The surface must be completely free of any debris or contaminant, such as paint, glue, drywall mud, etc., thoroughly cleaned and entirely dry before applying stain. For complete surface preparation instructions, consult the How to Apply Acid Stain guide or visit our website, [www.directcolors.com](http://www.directcolors.com).

**Application:** Concrete Acid Stain can be applied using an all plastic pump garden sprayer or with a foam brush for sample applications, smaller projects or hard to reach areas. Each of our acid stain colors can be cut with water to produce an array of different colors and shades. However, if the water content is too high, the chemical reaction between the acid and the cement won't be strong enough to color the concrete. Direct Colors do not recommend cutting our stains by more than 4 parts water to 1 part acid stain ratio, especially when using lighter colors such as the Malayan Buff or Desert Amber. Some colors vary more than others when increasing the water

content and many factors determine how dark the stain will become such as age of concrete, cement content, surface contaminants and weathering. As the acid stain dries and processes, a residue will form on the concrete surface. This is a completely normal part of the reaction process. Each stain has differing activation times to fully color the concrete, however, the stains can be left on longer for a darker coloration (see activation chart for details). One or more acid stain colors can be applied to the concrete if desired.

A light fizzing reaction should occur on the concrete when the stain is initially applied. The stain can be applied in one saturating coat or two coats for greater color variation. Do not neutralize or rinse between acid stain coats. Allow the stain to remain active on the concrete for at least the minimum activation time for each color for best results. When applying multiple concrete acid stain colors, always use acid resistant shoes to avoid leaving shoe impressions in wet, active stain. To see the stain's true color before neutralizing, dampen the surface using a spray bottle with water. The water will mimic the color you can expect to achieve after the concrete has been properly sealed. If you are working on a countertop project, use a timer to ensure the same activation time for each countertop sections. For recommended application techniques and complete how to instructions, visit our website, [www.directcolors.com](http://www.directcolors.com).

After the final coat of your stain has been applied and the activation time lapsed, remove the residue by applying a baking soda and water solution to neutralize the surface. Scrubbing with a soft nylon brush and soapy water may be necessary to remove stubborn debris. Continue cleaning and rinsing until nothing but clear water comes off the concrete. Once the surface has been properly neutralized, cleaned, and is completely dry, apply the sealer of your choice to protect the finish and add luster to the concrete. For sealer application instructions, visit the how to videos and guides page at [www.directcolors.com](http://www.directcolors.com).

**Sizes:** Concrete Acid Stains are available in quarts (.94 liters), one gallon (3.78 liters) and five gallon (18.9 liters) containers. Individual samples and kits are available for testing purposes.

**Shelf Life:** The typical shelf life of our Acid Stain is one year from date of purchase. Containers should always be stored out of direct sunlight, tightly closed and upright.

**Caution:** Handle with Care. Avoid Contact with Eyes and Skin. Can Cause Severe Eye Irritation and Minor Skin Irritation if in Prolonged Contact with Product. Fatal if swallowed. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN! Wear Respirator, Protective Clothing, Goggles and Gloves During Application. See Safety Data Sheet for Additional Product Warning Information

**Warranty:** Because the conditions of use and application of our products are beyond the control of Direct Colors Inc., Direct Colors makes no warranty regarding workmanship and other variables that do not involve the performance of our products. Buyer's sole remedy shall be the purchase price paid by the user or buyer for the quantity of the Direct Colors product involved. The sellers and manufacturers obligations under this warranty shall be limited to refunding the purchase price of that portion of the material defective. Seller and/or manufacturer will not be liable for special, incidental or consequential damages, including delays or lost profits.