



How to Use DCI Three-Step Countertop Metallic Epoxy Kit

Kit Contents:

- (1) 100% Epoxy Countertop Sealer Mini Kit
- (1) Metallic Pigment Color Pack
- (1) Quart of DCI Water Based Tinted Concrete Sealer
- (1) 12" Notched Squeegee
- (1) 4" Spiked Roller
- (2) 3/8" nap roller heads and one handheld frame
- (1) Wooden Stir Stick

Topcoat Options: 500 Solvent Based Polyurethane or 550 Water Based Polyurethane with 5 mil squeegee



Safety First! Apply this product with gloves, goggles and a dust mask. Proper ventilation to the outside is required while applying.

Surface Preparation: All surfaces should be clean, dry and free of any debris prior to application. Apply to countertops with a 60-100 grit profile only. Sand all pre-cast countertop surfaces poured on a melamine mat before applying. Sand or fill with slurry all "pinhole" air pockets or voids in the countertop surface prior to application. Very small and insignificant pinholes will be filled during the tinted sealer base coat application. Larger or more widespread holes must be slurried before proceeding. See How to Mix and Apply a Concrete Slurry on the [How to Videos](#) page of the website.

Optional Equipment: A general purpose paint brush and/or hand held squeegee

Applying the Tinted Concrete Sealer Primer/Base Color Coat:

The Tinted Concrete Sealer primer/basecoat provides the necessary contrasting canvas for the translucent metallic pigments. Please note that the base coat color will influence the overall countertop appearance due to the translucency of the metallic coat. For example, a white or light base coat color will create a lighter final appearance than a black or darker base coat color regardless of the metallic finish chosen. **DO NOT apply Water-Based Sealer if the surface temperature is under 60°F.**

Shake the product very well turning the product upside down to allow all the pigment to mix into the sealer. Pour into a paint tray and using a 3/8" nap roller, apply two coats tinted concrete sealer base coats, allowing up to 12 hours drying time between applications. Apply the first coat north-south and the second coat east-west. The finished surface should be smooth and free of milky or tacky areas before proceeding with the epoxy step.

Applying the Metallic Epoxy Sealer: Please see epoxy application videos on the How-to Videos page before beginning this step. For best results, apply sealer at temperatures between 65F-95F and when the relative humidity is 80% or less. The sealer itself must be above 65°F before installing. Pour all or part of the contents of the 2oz. container metallic pigment into the resin and carefully fold the metallic into the resin using the wooden stir stick. Stir for at least 2 minutes until completely combined. Allow metallic pigment and resin mixture to rest for 5 to 10 minutes and stir again for good suspension before adding the hardener. Add the hardener to resin and thoroughly mix according to the 100% Epoxy Countertop Sealer mixing instructions. See enclosed how to instructions included with each kit purchase.



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DCI 100% Epoxy Mini Kit **MUST** be applied at a thickness of 10 mils with the included notched squeegee. This thickness will prevent an orange peel texture in the epoxy and ensure the metallics work their magic. A 4" spiked roller is a helpful tool to break up air bubbles on the countertop surface should they occur. Working with metallic pigment in epoxy is a creative process. Use more or less metallic pigment to create surface designs or expose more of the countertop base color. Once the epoxy is applied, the metallic pigments will start to move and create their patina.

Metallic Epoxy Step-by-Step:

- Pour the desired amount of metallic pigment into the resin and stir in. Allow metallic pigment and resin mixture to rest for 5 to 10 minutes and stir again for good suspension before adding the hardener.
- Add hardener to resin and thoroughly mix then pour a ribbon along the width of the countertop.
- Use a 10 mil notched squeegee to move the material across the surface and evenly distribute the epoxy. You will notice there will be track lines from the notched squeegee.
- To eliminate track lines from squeegee, wet a 3/8" nap roller in the sealer and give a light back-roll across the squeegee lines.



Once the coating evenly covers the surface, freely swirl the roller in a random patterns to create different looks. Denatured alcohol may also be lightly spritzed over the countertop surface to create other unique metallic effects. Be careful not to over apply.

Clear Polyurethane Protective Topcoat:

For best results for metallic epoxy finishes, top coat using either a glossy DCI 550 Water-Based or a high gloss 500 Solvent-Based Polyurethane. Polyurethanes will need to be refinished after 5-10 years of use depending on wear conditions. Please see polyurethane application videos on the How-to Videos page before beginning this step.

- Surfaces sealed with DCI 100% Epoxy should cure for a minimum of 16 hours at approximately 75°F before applying a polyurethane protective coat. Apply within 24 hours of the epoxy coat or wet-sand the surface with a 600-grit pad prior application to ensure good adhesion.
- Apply either the 500 or 550 Polyurethane Sealer according to the how-to instructions.
- Select 550 Water Based Polyurethane for interior applications in occupied homes or businesses where chemical odor may be a problem.

For complete application polyurethane application instructions, visit our [how to guides page](#).