

There are a number of stunning and durable possibilities to choose from when you are considering your flooring options: from polished concrete to epoxy coatings, all with differing advantages and limitations. It will depend on your budget, the look you have in mind, the level of traffic/wear and tear you are expecting to have and how much maintenance you desire. This is a lot to consider and the options can be quite overwhelming, but we are here to help you find the flooring solution that is best suited for your next project!



RETAIL STORES SHOWROOMS & OFFICES

For retail/commercial projects like these, we would normally recommend some form of polished concrete. There are two types of polished concrete finishes for indoors that are available when it comes to choosing your floor – a Grind & Seal (G&S) or a Mechanical Polish (MPC). The decision will usually come down to your budget, the slip rating required and the intended use. Although these two types of polished concrete may look similar, they are very different in their properties & finishing qualities.

The G&S is a process in which a clear coating (sealer), is applied at the end stages, which provides the floor with an artificial shine/finish. This sealer can be anything from a solvent-based or water-based polyurethane, a water-based polycarbonate, a clear epoxy or polyaspartic, or even an acrylic coating. The surface finish is usually a little more textured, and is not quite as smooth in touch or appearance as the MPC, however this finish has been used in retail & office spaces for many, many years and can be the perfect choice depending on the look you are trying to achieve and the intended use.

The MPC is a process in which the concrete is filled with densifiers (hardeners), and then mechanically polished with diamond resins to produce a natural gloss level – meaning that it's the actual concrete itself that shines! There is no topical coating applied at the end, which is a very desirable property in any floor, as it means there is nothing on the surface that can be damaged or scratched, for example by high volumes of foot traffic or even dragging furniture across the floor. Now, before you start to concern yourself with the question of "but what if I spill something?" – at the end of the MPC process, a penetrating sealer is applied that is absorbed into the concrete and helps to protect the slab from things like liquids and spills. The finish you are left with after we have completed this process is a totally smooth finish with a glass-like feel, which has of course in recent years become ever-so popular in retail & office spaces!

Given that these two finishes are the most popular, we also have to take into account that many of our clients want to be able to choose a certain colour floor, or that their existing slab is just not in suitable enough condition to be polished – this is where our Concrete Overlay and Feather Floor options come into play.

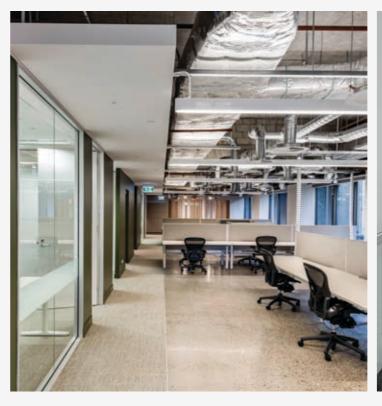
The Concrete Overlay system works by pouring a 12-15mm concrete topping over your existing slab, followed by grinding it down 2-5mm and polishing up to a matte or satin finish. The great thing about this process is it allows you to choose a cement & aggregate colour for your floor without having to worry about getting a whole brand-new slab poured!

The Feather Floor process involves having a cement based compound called "Feather" trowelled down over your existing slab to cover up any imperfections in the surface and leave your floor with a unique look, completely different to any other flooring option you have seen! The way this floor gets it's uniqueness is by the pattern/motion in which each different tradesman uses when they trowel the product down, as this pattern stays in the floor and gives it it's overall "industrial" type look.

Still unsure which option to choose? – why not come and visit our showroom where we have samples of every finish imaginable to help you decide. We also have state of the art virtual reality software, so you can see each finish in a virtual family home setting, with everything from natural light to soft furnishings!











FOOD OUTLETS RESTAURANTS BARS

Similar to the previous options for retail spaces, the Grind & Seal, Mechanical Polish, Concrete Overlay & Feather Floor options are all suitable for a bars and/or restaurant Front-Of-House (FOH) areas, depending on the slip rating required of course. OzGrind can achieve the necessary stone exposure and gloss level you are wanting for your food & beverage space, based on the look or 'feel' you are trying to achieve. We can also give you advice on which exposure & gloss level might suit your space better based on the interior design and the amount of lighting your FOH area will receive while the restaurant is open!

For your Back-Of-House (BOH) section, you may be required to meet industry "food serving" standards, which requires a higher slip rating than the FOH section and a coving that extends 50-150mm up the wall. Lucky for you, OzGrind can do both! Our coving is created with a cement based compound, which we then cover in a solid colour coating which flows continuously throughout the kitchen/serving area floor. Some non-slip grit will be added into the coating to give the floor surface it's required slip rating.









INDUSTRIAL SPACES& WAREHOUSES

The solid colour epoxy coating has been a favourite in industrial spaces for decades! And, as the flooring industry is growing so rapidly, so is the range of products that can be used for warehouses and other industrial spaces. OzGrind offer an infinite range of colours to choose from (almost 220 colours in total) for your solid colour floor, and we can now offer a product that is the next generation in epoxy coatings – Polyaspartic!

The Polyaspartic coating is the "big brother" of epoxies – it is considered one of the most durable, hard-wearing and long-lasting coatings on the market today. It has an excellent chemical resistance & scratch resistance, AND with the option to add non-slip grit into the top coat, it can be made to reach any slip rating required for your space. An outstanding aspect to this product is it's curing time – because it has fast-curing qualities, it means that the floor can be used as quickly as 6 hours after it has been applied (depending on the external temperatures and as the type & volume of traffic).

OzGrind is always happy to supply its clients with an epoxy coating, but for your industrial space we will always recommend upgrading to a polyaspartic coating!







INTERPERATATION GUIDE FOR SLIP RATINGS:

Compare description of test zone to the most relevant location description from Table 1, noting the relevant pendulum classification (HB198 - 2014) for the location.

From Table 2 asses the relevant BPN applicable to the classification derived from Table 1. Making sure that the BPN rating is applicable to the slider used within the report.

STEP 3. Compare the recommended BPN range and classification to the actual test result.

Table 1: Pedestrian flooring selection guide minimum pendulum or ramp recommendations for specific locations (HB 198-2014)

LOCATION	WET PENDULUM TEST	RAMP
External Pavements and Ramps		
• External ramps including sloping driveways, footpaths etc. steeper than 1 in 14	P5 R	12
 External Ramps including sloping driveways, footpaths, etc. under 1in 14, external sales areas (e.g. markets) external car park areas external colonnades, walkways, pedestrian crossings, balconies, verandas, carports, driveway, courtyards, and roof decks 	P4	R11
Under cover car parks	P3	R10
Hotels, Offices, Public Buildings, Schools and Kindergartens.		
Entries and access areas including hotels, offices, public buildings, schools, kindergarten, common areas of public buildings, internal lift lobbies.		
• Wet area	P3	R10
Transitional area	P2	R9
• Dry Area	P1	R9
Toilet facilities in offices, hotels, and shopping centers	P3	R10
 Hotel apartment bathrooms, en suites, and toilets 	P2	А
Hotel Apartment Kitchens and Laundries	P2	R9
Supermarkets and Shopping centers		
 Fast food outlets, buffet food, servery area food courts and fast food dining areas in shopping centers. 	P3	R10
Shop and supermarket fresh fruit and vegetable areas.	P3	R10
Shop entry areas with external entrances	P3	R10
Supermarket aisles (except fresh food areas)	P1	R9
Other separate shops inside shopping centers-wet	P3	R10
Other separate shops inside shopping centers dry	P1	R9
Loading docks, Commercial Kitchens, Cold Stores, Serving Areas		
 Loading docks under cover and commercial kitchens 	P5	R12
 Serving areas behind bars in public hotels and clubs, cold stores and freezers 	P4	R11
Swimming pools and Sporting facilities		
Swimming pool ramps and stairs leading to water	P5	С
Swimming pool surrounds and communal shower rooms	P4	В
Communal Change rooms	P3	А
Under cover concourse area of sports stadiums	P3	R10
Hospitals and Aged Care Facilities		
Bathrooms and en suites in hospitals and aged care facilities	P3	В
Wards and corridors in hospital and aged care facilities	P2	R9

Notes and references

The information provided is intended as a guide only consult with the referenced publications for further information in regards to measurement results and recommendations. References: HB 197-1999, AS 4586-2013,

Table 2: Classification of pedestrian surfaces according to AS 4586 wet pendulum test.





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