



TSUNAMI
— F L O O R S —

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

TO POLYASPARTIC GARAGE FLOOR COATINGS

KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY

We know this is a big investment for your house. We want to ensure that we provide you with all the information needed before you decide on your project. We are here to help you make the best decision.

WHAT'S THE PROCESS LIKE?

Typically this process takes one day to complete. The first step is making sure the concrete is properly treated. We use our diamond concrete grinders to make sure the concrete is smooth and will bind with the base coat. As you would assume grinding concrete creates a lot of dust. To ensure you will not have to clean up any concrete dust afterwards we use vacuums with HEPA filters and special attachments to control the dust. Once the concrete is ground the crew will go over the floor with vacuums once more to make sure all the dust has been collected. The crew will then inspect for any repair work ex. filling in cracks, filling dents or spalling, or skim coating. We use mender for concrete repairs. Once the mender dries, we will use the grinders to grind back over the spot to smooth it out.

The next step will be applying the Polyurea base layer. Think of the base coat as a glue for the vinyl paint chips (flakes) and top coat to adhere to.

After the base coat has been applied, the crew will add the flakes which will provide the color and texture. The flakes are applied generously and thrown across the polyurea base layer. The crew will apply 1.5x the necessary amount of flake across the base layer to ensure complete coverage. Once the flake has been laid the crew will give the flake about 45 minutes to bind to the base coat. After that the crew will come back and scrape and vacuum any excess chips. The last step is applying the Polyaspartic top coat. The top coat will get squeezed over the entire surface and then rolled to ensure that every square foot is nice and even while it's curing. Polyaspartic is the UV and chemical resistant product. Once everything is applied it will take about 3 hours before you walk on the floor and about 24 hours to dry before you can park your vehicles and pack all of your belongings back into your garage.

WHAT'S SHOULD DO TO PREPARE THE FLOOR BEFORE MY INSTALLATION?

Your garage needs to be cleaned out before the concrete coating process begins. If you don't know what to do with all of your belongings, **we can help you figure out a storage solution.** If you have things hanging on the walls it won't affect the coating process. Just make sure everything is roughly 3 feet off the ground.

In Washington it's inevitable that it will rain or snow. If the weather predicts rain or snow a few days before the installation date, try to limit how many times you bring the vehicles in/out of the garage. If possible we recommend parking them outside to limit water dripping on the floor keeping the concrete as dry as possible. We will also test the relative humidity of the concrete to determine what products will work best for your concrete and can lay a vapor barrier down if needed. It's not necessary for you to sweep or pressure wash the floor beforehand. The grinding and vacuuming will be sufficient.

WHAT DOES YOUR WARRANTY COVER/HOW DOES IT WORK?

The warranty is if the product itself is failing. Signs of product failure will usually be present within the first week or two after installation. We will come back and fix it for you with no added cost within that time frame. We also offer a limited lifetime warranty for the first 5 years of the product's life. This covers the cost of product and labor. Once the 5 years has passed the manufacture of our product offers a 10 year warranty to cover the product cost and cost of fixing the coating if the product is failing. If this occurs you can fill out the warranty sheet in the folder that was provided for you in your quote. You will fill out your information in the boxes and once that has been completed notify the office that you have filled a warranty sheet and your reason for doing so. We will submit it to the warranty department and once it has been filled we will contact you to set up a date to come out and fix the issue.

WILL WE COAT OVER THE FELT PAD BETWEEN THE FLOOR AND THE WALL?

Coating over the felt pad between the floor and wall will require additional steps. The coating will not adhere to the soft material the pad is made of. If you would like us to coat over the felt lining we can caulk and our specific product that will allow the caulk to bind to the felt. This would include an extra charge due to the extra cost of product and labor. A rough estimate for the added cost would be around \$120 for a two car garage and \$190 for a three car, but price is subject to carry depending on the square footage and condition perimeter.

DOES THE COATING SCRATCH EASILY?

Polyaspartic floors are incredibly durable and scratch resistant. It is possible for these coatings to scratch, but it is uncommon as this coating is one of the most durable in the industry. Epoxy will scratch much easier than Polyaspartic. Using the flake also helps increase the scratch resistance of the floor as it provides some texture so objects will slide over the ridges of the flakes as opposed to catching on and scaring the coating. Try to avoid dragging sharp objects across the floor. We went to a trade show and they took a 5 foot pipe wrench and grind it across the floor as an example to show how truly tough and durable these floors are.

WILL THE COATING CRACK IF THE CONCRETE

CRACKS?

If your garage floor has expansion joints then if your concrete shifts overtime the joints will usually catch the majority of the cracks. If not, we take the necessary preparation to mend any cracks in the floor to get the best adhesion and avoid cracks. Hairline cracks are unlikely to show through, but any large cracks will show through on the coating.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DROP SOMETHING ON THE COATING AND IT CHIPS MY FLOOR?

Dropping something on the floor will likely not chip the coating. It would have to be a really dense and sharp edged object that is dropped to puncture the coating. Know that if something happens we can repair the damage without redoing the entire floor. If the damage is in the top coat we can repair it with ease. If the damage goes below the top coat, we are still able to come and repair the floor without incurring massive costs. The hardest challenge with repair is when more flakes need to be laid and we need to try to match the color 100% so it's not noticeable the floor has been repaired. The manufacture of the flake puts a disclaimer in every box letting us know there might be slight variations in color between boxes. In most cases it's unnoticeable and we can match up the color so well no one will be able to tell it's been repaired.

DO YOU NEED TO GRIND THE FLOOR OR CAN YOU DO AN ACID WASH?

Grinding the floor with our diamond grinders is by far the best way to prep for a long term coating. Prepping the floor by grinding will strip the floor of any cure, sealant, or stains which can affect the way the coats bind and deteriorate the floor over time. The diamonds also create micro ridges in the concrete which is what the products will bind to. As mentioned before the combination of our top line grinders and vacuums will help minimize the dust and is more time efficient than an acid wash. This will help you get back into your garage as soon as possible!

DO THE EXPANSION JOINTS GET FILLED

DURING THE INSTALLATION PROCESS?

We can lay the coating by leaving the joints or coating them. We don't recommend filling the expansion joints as they are there for a reason to help eliminate cracks in the shifting concrete. If you want your expansion joints we can fill your expansion joints with a solid product, but there are other risks associated with that. Some of the products used to fill the joints won't last as long as the coating we use and can cause delamination along those areas.

Here are the options.

One option is that we can coat in/out of the expansion joints without filling any of the cracks in the floor. This will give you the longest lasting floor because it allows the floor to shift without causing damage to the coating. The only downside to this method is that you might see cracks in the expansion joints as the floor shifts.

Another option is using a flexible product to caulk the cracks, prior to caulking in and out of the joints. This looks really good aesthetically and will last for a good amount of time. The downside is the caulk can break loose over time and the cracks in the expansion joints will be present from the caulk.

The last option is to use a product specifically designed to fill expansion joints. This will turn a one day project into a two day project. For this method we would need to come out a day or two prior to the installation of the coating to grind the joints and fill them with an epoxy base compound. The only difficulty with this is that the concrete in a garage floor tends to be slightly sloped and since the compound is runny this may be a challenge for us. If all goes well and the epoxy base and joint filler we will shave off the excess and level the seams before grinding and coating the floor.

There is no warranty for issues that arise from filling expansion joints with a caulk or joint filler.

CAN STEPS BE COATED EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE MADE OUT OF WOOD?

Absolutely! The coating will adhere to the steps even if the steps are made out of wood, but there is no warranty on them. Coating the steps is a superior option to painting them and the coating will last much longer than painting them. We will sand the steps and then the product will be applied the same way as concrete.

We don't remove any steps if you want them coated. We coat them while they are attached to the wall. If you want to remove the steps yourself we will coat the steps for you on some plastic and coat them outside. The real benefit to removing the steps is that we are able to get a full consistent coating on the area the steps cover. If the steps are not removed we will coat under and around them as best we can.

CAN THIS COATING BE APPLIED FOR WHEN ITS COLD OUT?

Yes we can! We have summer and winter blends of all of the variety of products. The summer blend dries quicker in warmer weather and the winter weather dries quicker in colder weather. There's also certain products we can use in different humidity and moisture to make sure the process goes smoothly.

IS IT NORMAL TO HAVE BUBBLES IN THE FLOOR THE DAY AFTER INSTALLATION?

Yes, it's totally normal to see air bubbles on the floor within a day or two after installation. The reason this occurs is because of temperature fluctuation. When the temperature rises and drops during the day and night the concrete will release air during the temperature transition. It's not common for large air bubbles to occur. If an air bubble larger than a quarter occurs give us a call so we can make a repair if needed.

IS IT DUSTY?

With us it's minimal. We invest in high quality equipment to make sure we limit the amount of dust. We realize the last thing you want to do is clean dust off of all your belongings in the following days. The grinders have vacuum attachment so when grinding we are connected to the vacuums so the dust is constantly being sucked up and regulated. We've invested in premium vacuums with HEPA filters to give you a premium garage floor. Vacuum airflow is measured in cubic square feet (CFM). We use some of the highest CFM vacuums on the market. You can leave your things hanging on the ceiling or walls without concern.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO CLEAN MY FLOOR?

These coatings are extremely easy to clean. A squeegee with soap and water will take care of the job perfectly for a normal maintenance clean. If you spill motor oil you just use a degreaser (CLR, Simple Green, or Pinesol) and mix in with water to clean the spot up. Additionally you can use a low pressure or wide pressure washing tip to clean the coating as well (a fine tip will begin to chip the coating).

HOW OFTEN DO I NEED TO CLEAN MY GARAGE FLOOR?

The cleaner your garage floor is the less abrasion occurs. When debris build up occurs it begins to act like sandpaper between your car and the coating. It's not going to harm you, but over time it will dull the top coat and you will not get the maximum life span out of the coating. Just keep an eye out on the weather conditions and how much debris is getting tracked into the garage and give it some maintenance once every couple months. This will keep your floor looking amazing.

WILL THE FLOOR DISCOLOR OVER TIME DUE TO CONSTANT UV EXPOSURE?

No, you do not have to worry about Polyaspartic coatings becoming discolored if

there is constant uv exposure. Typical epoxy coatings are not uv protected so excessive sun exposure will fade the coating.

DO I NEED TO BE HOME FOR THE INSTALLATION?

No, you do not have to be home for the installation. We understand how busy life can get, but that is no problem here. As long as the crew have access to the garage the job can be completed without the requirement of you needing to be present. They will not need access to your home, just access to the garage.

Keep in mind we might need to contact you for questions during the job or for payment once the job is complete. So if possible make sure you give us your best contact number!

WHY DO YOU USE A POLYUREA BASE COAT, INSTEAD OF USING A POLYASPARTIC FOR BOTH THE BASE AND TOP?

As I mentioned before there are three products that can be used as a base coat and top coat. The Polyaspartic, Polyurea, and Epoxy. The reason we tend to use the Polyurea for a base coat is because it adheres to the concrete the best. In the winter time we use a Polyaspartic for both the base and top coat because of colder and wetter weather conditions. The Polyaspartic base coat dries quicker and also is still incredibly durable and upholds the standard of our product.

CAN YOU COAT A DRIVEWAY WITH POLYASPARTIC?

We do not recommend coating your driveway. Our product is intended for flat surfaces like floors. The product is fairly slip resistant especially after the additive is

added, but coating a sloped surface will cause the surface to become slick. Since we live in a wet marine area we receive a lot of rain and snow. We want to make sure your car can make it safely up your driveway in those conditions.

IF MY FLOOR IS DRIPPING OR POOLING IN SOME AREAS, ARE YOU ABLE TO FIX IT BEFORE HAND?

This is a fairly complicated question and there are a lot of things to consider when answering this. If you see that there is a visual dip and that your concrete slab has sunken, you might want to consider having it raised before coating. To raise the slab holes will be drilled in the concrete and a mud/foam can be pumped into the holes and underneath the concrete to level the slab. We don't specialize in this service so you will need to contact a company that offers this service.

If the slab is pooling water in a specific area on the surface of the concrete, it's a little tricky to find a solution. It's pretty rare to have a slab of concrete poured and leveled perfectly. There are self leveling products available on the market, but once you level one it usually just displaces the water to a different area where it will pool.

Additionally, once you start layering multiple products on top of each other manufacturers are hesitant to warranty floors due to higher chances of delamination. We do find that after completion of the coating the pooling tends to decrease naturally because the products we use are self leveling and tend to fill in some of the lower spots. It's not a guaranteed fix, but it can help.

CAN I FILL THE EXPANSION JOINTS AFTER THE COATINGS ARE INSTALLED?

You can fill the expansion joints after the coating is installed. Sika Self Leveling Polyurethane can be purchased at home depot and is the product we recommend using if you plan on filling the expansion joints after coating. It requires a caulk gun and comes in a grey and tan color.

DOES THIS PRODUCT LEAVE AN ODOR?

All Polyaspartic, Polyurea, and Epoxy have a slight odor. We have chosen a manufacturer who takes pride in formulating chemicals that are the most environmentally conscious and homeowner/installer friendly. Chemicals with a high VOCs are cheaply made and have a strong odor. Our manufacturer produces products with low VOCs so the odor is minimal and the chemical won't jeopardize the health of our customers and installers.

ARE DIFFERENT COLORS DIFFRENT PRICES?

No, all the colors we offer are priced at the same price point. We generally keep a bulk stock of our most popular colors. We do have additional colors if the colors we offer aren't your cup of tea. If we have a color we don't have in stock we will have to place a special order and there might be an added charge depending on the availability. The flake usually takes about two weeks for shipment. We have a catalog we can share with you and offer a pretty diverse color selection.

WHAT IS EXCEPTIONAL ABOUT YOUR PRODUCT VERSUS THE COMPETITORS?

As mentioned before we use a manufacturer who specialize in products with minimal smell and low VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds). A lot of floor coatings will have lingering smells and are also harmful to breathe in due to high VOCs. The manufacturer takes pride in creating safe and quality products. We also take pride in making sure we communicate openly with you throughout the entire process to help give you an understanding of the prep work and products for your service.