

Technical Bulletin #56 Key Epoxy Terrazzo Divider Strip Spacing

With Key Epoxy Terrazzo, divider strips function to separate colors, create designs, honor various types of joints in the concrete slab, and are also used to relieve expansion/contraction movement stress in the epoxy terrazzo topping.

Movement stress in the epoxy terrazzo topping may be created by heating/cooling cycles and sunlight through windows/skylights rapidly heating the epoxy terrazzo. A general industry guideline to aid in movement stress relief is to space 'back-to-back' divider strips no greater than 30 x 30 linear feet panels, or on column lines. Back-to-back strips should be filled with a recommended joint filler. Note: Single divider strips are used to separate colors only, not to relieve movement stress.

Radiant heat systems and concrete slabs subjected to significant vibration or deflection may require smaller size divider strip panels and other special treatments, contact Key Resin Technical Service.

In general, to restrict excessive movement in the terrazzo topping it is recommended to bond most of the terrazzo topping directly to the concrete slab and treat cracks and joints individually with Key #580 Flexible Membrane 'band-aids'. For the possible use of full substrate flexible membrane, contact Key Resin Technical Service for recommendations.

Terrazzo is an in situ created product by human craftsmanship and the installer must endeavor to meet the standards for the entire project. However, the terrazzo should not be arbitrarily rejected for relatively minor non-compliance. This is especially true if the overall functional and aesthetic values were satisfied.

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