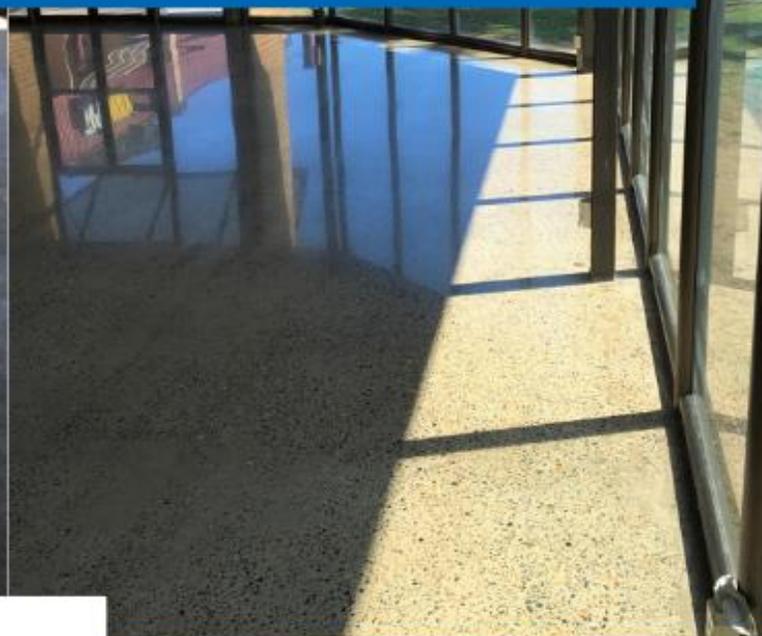




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THINGS YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE CHOOSING YOUR CONCRETE POLISHER



GRIND SEAL

NeeBuyer Beware! Read this Revealing Report Before Choosing your Concrete Polisher

If you're getting ready to select a concrete polishing contractor for your residential or commercial flooring project, before you hire someone, you need to know the truth about the concrete polishing industry. If you want to avoid some of the most common concrete polishing project pitfalls, read on about the **5** top issues you need to consider before you proceed—plus tips for how to get around each one.

1. The Industry Lacks Oversight and Official Standards

Did you know there is **no** regulatory body for the concrete polishing industry in Victoria? What's more, there is no formal apprenticeship for concrete polishing. That means if you don't choose a knowledgeable and experienced contractor, you could encounter some major issues with the quality of the service. Not to mention, you might end up with contractors who are using your floor as a "practice run."

Valuable Tip: Because there is no higher industry authority overseeing the practice, it's essential to make sure you choose a company that enforces their own strict standards of quality and training on a company-wide basis. The level of knowledge and expertise of the company you choose makes all the difference in this industry.

2. Not All Contractors Communicate Before, During, and After

Unfortunately, a lot of concrete polishing contractors are not upfront with their clients about either the polishing process or the next steps. There can be risks to polishing concrete; for example, the concrete may not always turn out well if the area of floor is not suited to polishing services. It is essential to have an open dialogue with your contractor to make sure you know all the pros and cons *before* the work begins. Also, many contractors don't keep their clients updated or inform their clients about proper after-care once the floor has been completed. Did you know that using extremely acidic or extremely alkaline products to clean your floor can cause concrete breakdown and may cause considerable damage to the floor?

Valuable Tip: Make sure you do your research and choose a company that is transparent with you and keeps you in the loop every step of the way. At Grind and Seal, we are proud to provide our customers with detailed directions for correct after-care for the floor, plus a free, ph-neutral cleaning product to help you on your way in taking the best possible care of your flooring.

3. Some Contractors Disregard Proper Health & Safety Procedures

You may not immediately think of concrete polishing as dangerous. However, working with concrete does carry some health risks that need to be addressed. The primary risk is that concrete dust contains extremely tiny, fine silica particles. Without proper precautions, these silica particles can cause serious health problems, such as silicosis. Many times, businesses will still need to operate while polishing is being carried out in the same premises and home owners are around, as well as customers, family, friends and pets, so safe practices are important.

Valuable Tip: When you hire a concrete polishing contractor, make sure that you know exactly what measures the company takes to follow safety standards. Grind and Seal utilises advanced-tech equipment to manage and mitigate health risks to both our workers and our clients, such as vacuum equipment and air scrubbers to extract dust and keep the air clean.

4. Many Contractors Don't Use the Right Materials or Tools

Unfortunately, too many concrete polishing companies are more focused on quantity than quality. To complete projects quickly, they often cut corners and rush through steps,

resulting in faulty floors that must be rectified later. One example is that many contractors use cheap, poor-quality, imported materials to save money. Another is that many use substandard techniques (i.e. hammer and chisel) in corners to remove excess concrete, chipping out aggregate and potentially creating craters in the floor as a result. These can only be filled with repair compound, which almost never matches in colour and texture. Some contractors skip corners entirely, or charge for each individual corner! Every doorway with door jambs is essentially 8 corners, so this issue can have very noticeable results. Meanwhile, some companies don't follow a grouting parameter, which means they don't fill a high enough percentage of the pinholes after grinding, giving a porous look. This can easily be seen. They might not use enough densifier, which is used to harden concrete further, or even enough sealer.

Valuable Tip: Make sure the contractor you hire takes the time that is needed for the job and does not skimp on the necessary products or equipment required to ensure long-lasting flooring.

5. With Concrete Polishing, You Get What You Pay For

One of the most important things you need to know about concrete polishing is you get what you pay for. When you're tempted to hire the cheapest contractor on the market, remember that if it seems too good to be true, it probably is. The cheapest contractors are the most likely to cut corners, use low-quality materials and rush to finish projects. Many companies also use a "one-size-fits-all" approach that doesn't account for the unique needs of your own floor. And when the work isn't done correctly, there's a high probability you will have to get someone to rectify the original work—and you'll end up paying for your flooring worse-than twice.

Valuable Tip: It is much better to make sure you hire a contractor that will do the job properly the first time around. When you pay for high-quality finishing services, you can feel confident that you'll have a better outcome that is more reliable and designed to last much longer. At Grind and Seal, we are often asked to come in and rectify faulty floors and we see many problems that could have been easily avoided if the concrete polishing had been done correctly the first time.

The bottom line:

- Quality is everything when it comes to concrete polishing.
- Don't fall for contractors that cut corners. The higher quality the service, the better chance your floor will last for a long time and the less likely you will have to deal with issues like craters and floor breakdown.
- As with any industry, there are some contractors who cut corners and there are others who prioritise quality over quantity. When you choose an experienced, trustworthy company, you will almost certainly end up paying much less in the long run because you won't need to have your floor rectified..

At Grind and Seal, we proudly offer custom, tailor-designed concrete and surfacing solutions for both residential and commercial settings, brought to you by specialists who offer the ultimate skills, dedication, equipment, experience and workmanship. We are pleased to operate in Melbourne and its surrounding areas and we welcome you to contact us today to find out how we can help you to achieve the floor you've been waiting for.