

# KNOW YOUR TOPCRET COATING

**Baxab & Microcemento**  
**USER'S GUIDE**



**TOPCRET**

# UNDERSTAND YOUR COATING

Baxab and Microcemento are manually applied coatings, products of our expert craftsmen, carried out with care. Once completed, your coating will be unique. Every single trowel movement, every little mark or spot will make it individual. There will not be another like yours.

## Hand application

All our coatings are applied in a traditional manner by our own experienced installers, using nothing more than a trowel and their own hands. They are installed one layer at a time, each with its own purpose, providing elasticity, strength, colour and resistance. Since using heavy or large machinery is not required, our products are suitable for any type of construction work, including occupied spaces.

## Imperfection? No, a unique characteristic!

As mentioned earlier, our coatings are manually applied, making all our finished surfaces different and unique. Also, due to the characteristics of our products and their manual application the result does not produce a uniform finish.

Because of its pigmentation and the way it is applied, there is a chance that some naturally-produced markings appear.

## Trowel markings:

These are probably the main aesthetic feature of our surfaces. They are achieved with the trowel during the application of the colour layer. They are more prominent in Microcemento than in Baxab. We offer two styles of trowel movement depending on your preferences (from regular to minimal with Baxab and from maximum to regular with Microcemento), but there are always some markings on our surfaces. It is also very important to understand that it is not possible to choose the shape, tone or location of these markings.

Trowel markings in Microcemento Azul Profundo.



## Sheen:

Due to the wax content in both Baxab and Microcemento, there is always a certain level of sheen in our finishes, even in the matt option if looked at closely.

## Marks and spots:

They might appear here and there during the installation. Do not worry, they are part of our product's pigmentation. Think of them as something exclusive to your floor or wall. They are natural and cannot be avoided.

## Unevenness on the floor:

During the application, we follow the levels of the surfaces we are coating. These should be prepared prior to our installation so they are as smooth and flat as possible. Due to the minimal thickness of our products, this cannot correct already uneven surfaces.

## Micro bubbles:

While very rare, these tiny little bubbles might be caused by ambient moisture and could appear at certain areas of the floor. These are not directly related to Topcret's materials, but if spotted during installation can be corrected.

## Cracks:

Baxab's and Microcemento's thinness and high adhesion strength prevent cracking under most circumstances. Cracks occur only if the base undergoes some settlement motion or significant dilatation. That is why before every project, our installers inspect the surfaces to be coated. If they see any cracks, they will work on them to prevent them from opening up. However, we cannot anticipate future cracks in sub-bases, and, if they appear, there is a chance that they may affect our product.



Marks and spots in Baxab Blanco.



Watermark in Baxab Trigo.



Textured detail in Microcemento Rosso.



Detail of the hand-made corners.

# CARE FOR YOUR COATING

You finally have your new coating installed. Great! But ... What's next? How long does it take to dry? What can you do to take care of it? Which products can you use to clean it? Below you will find all you need to ensure that your Topcret coating lasts for many years.

## Baxab & Microcemento drying times

In addition to rapid installation, one of the greatest advantages of our products is that the coated surface can be open for foot traffic 24 hours after the work has been completed. However, in order to avoid any unnecessary damage, we recommend keeping to the following drying times:

- 24 hours: light foot traffic permitted.
- 72 hours: the sealant dries; the surface becomes waterproof.
- You can now cover your floor with a breathable material (we recommend MDI panels), removing it at night so the floor can keep curing.
- 5 days: you can now reposition your furniture or units with new, clean felt pads in order to prevent unnecessary damage.
- 21 days: the surface completely cures.

## How long does a Topcret coating last?

It is hard to say since it mostly depends on the amount of use and maintenance of the surface. If you take good care of it, it will last for many years.

## How do I clean it?

No heavy machinery is required for the maintenance of our surfaces.

Baxab only needs simple periodic cleaning, removing the dirt particles to protect the colour. You should mop the surface 2/3 times per week with water and self-shine wax, or once a day if the floor is exposed to heavy traffic.

Please refer to the Guarantee & Insurance Programme leaflet for further information.

Do not hesitate to ask for it at: [london@topcret.com](mailto:london@topcret.com)

## Which products can I use to clean it?

RECOMMENDED	DO NOT USE
<b>BAXAB</b>	<b>BAXAB</b>
-MR MUSCLE NEUTRAL PH (LIQUID SOAP)	-VIRKAL (LIMESCALE REMOVER).
-SELF-SHINE WAX.	-MOST CHEMICALS AND SOLVENTS (MAX. 10").
-ALCOHOL.	
-CLITTI BANG.	
-BLEACH.	
<b>MICROCEMENTO</b>	<b>MICROCEMENTO</b>
-MR CLEAN NEUTRAL PH (CLEANING SOLUTION).	-VIRKAL (LIMESCALE REMOVER).
-SELF-SHINE WAX (DILUTED WITH WATER).	-MOST CHEMICALS AND SO WETS (MAX. 10").
-PACVID (FURNITURE SPRAY).	-HYDROCHLORIC ACID-BASED PRODUCTS.
-BLEACH.	-CLITTI BANG (STRONG DETERGENT).
-DISHWASHER DETERGENT.	
-ALCOHOL.	

## Regenerating System

To deal with extreme dirt or abrasion, we can supply a Regenerating System Programme that can be used on your surface. It consists of removing the last layer and replacing it with a new one, leaving floors or walls as they were before.

## Guarantee & Insurance Programme

Topcret offers a free 3 year Guarantee & Insurance Programme with the installation of any of its products. It covers, for a period of three years, the repair of any defects emerging as a result of faulty installation or any problem inherent in the product. It also offers substantial discounts for repairs made necessary for other reasons, including changes of colour.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

## Do you sell your products without installation?

No, we do not. At Topcret we manufacture and install our own products, but we do not sell the material alone. Our installations require a professional knowledge of the products and great skill!

## Do you have a minimum area requirement to undertake a project?

Yes; that would be a total of 20 sq m per job.

## I live outside London but I like your product... Can you install in any part of the UK?

Yes, from our base in London we cover the whole of the UK. If the job is located outside London, there will be a charge to cover the travel & subsistence expenses of our installers for the duration of the installation.

## Does it work well with underfloor heating?

Perfectly, in fact, most of the installations we carry out in the UK are over underfloor heating systems topped with screed or self-levelling.

## Do you have a showroom I can visit?

Yes, we have a showroom in London with a complete installation of our products on multiple surfaces and in different colours. We always recommend visiting us to have a good look at our products. Find where we are located at: [www.topcret.co.uk](http://www.topcret.co.uk)

## Can you send me some samples of your products?

Yes, we can do that, but again, we definitely recommend visiting our showroom, since the samples will only show the colour options. They will not demonstrate the aesthetic features and quality of our products in an actual installation, nor the trowel marks of the finish.

## Are Topcret products waterproof?

Yes, our coatings are waterproof. We can install them in wet rooms, shower areas, spas, steam and sauna rooms. We can even coat swimming pools. However, 'waterproof' is not the same as 'waterproofing'. Our products are impermeable on their external face only, but not from what is under-

neath. Any wet areas to be coated will therefore need to be tanked before a Topcret installation.

## Can it be used outdoors?

Yes, our products are perfectly suitable for outdoor use. However, we need dry weather during the installation with an additional 72 hours for the sealant to dry. But do not worry! We have done many patios in the UK. It is just a matter of planning the right time for the installation. This is why we recommend doing outdoor jobs during the warmer months of the year.

## Is it completely anti-scratch? Can I do as 'the lady with the knife' in the advertisement?

Baxab, our flooring product, is very resistant to scratches, even metallic ones, but a sharp knife would scratch almost any type of floor. An ad is an ad, and its purpose is to send out a message, sometimes using a bit of fiction!

## What preparations do the surfaces to be coated require?

Consider us as painters. Although our product and its installation is far more complex than painting, we are a finish, a very thin one. As with a paint finish we follow the shape and unevenness of the surface we work on. So, our ideal surface would be a solid, dry and levelled/smooth one. Screed, self-levelling compounds, tiles, plasterboards, cement boards or even wood usually work well ... Our commercial department will provide you with additional advice on the preparation of the surfaces to coat.

## It looks like polished concrete. How is it different from this product?

While it looks quite similar, polished concrete is considerably thicker and it also cracks and chips quite easily compared to our products, which are stronger and will last longer.

## How easy is it to touch-up cracks or impact marks?

This depends on the extent of the damage. The bigger the patch or 'touch-up', the more it will show. The repaired area might show a difference in colour to the rest of the area. If any repairs should be required, Topcret representatives will be happy to assist.