

# THE CONCRETE FLOOR REPORT

NEWS FOR EVERYONE WHO DESIGNS, BUILDS, MAINTAINS, OR OWNS CONCRETE FLOORS

A Publication of The MJA Company, Serving New York Since 1988



**Honed Floor**



**Semi-Polished Floor**



**Highly-Polished Floor**

Not all polished concrete floors are created equal. You can choose the amount of shine that is right for your floor.

## Polished Concrete: Let it Shine.

Diamond-polished concrete is one of the leading options for commercial, industrial, and residential flooring today. While retaining the natural beauty and slip-resistance of concrete, polished concrete floors can lower maintenance and energy costs. In addition, polished concrete is a proven leader in Green Building and LEED Certification.

Polished concrete is a cost-effective, viable option for virtually any concrete floor. You will find polished concrete in every kind of building from homes to shopping centers, manufacturing facilities and clean-room laboratories which require dust-free environments.

Diamond polished concrete's cost of ownership is significantly lower than vinyl, carpet, and other "stick-on" flooring.

Designer colors and precise saw cuts may be added to polished concrete to meet the most demanding aesthetic requirements. And, with a little bit of low-cost care, you can expect most diamond-polished concrete floors to deliver decades of service

### The diamond-polishing process:

Much like finishing a fine piece of wood, diamond polished concrete floors are made smooth and shiny through a series of polishing phases.

On existing concrete, the process begins by removing any foreign materials such as adhesives from the floor. Cracks and cosmetic imperfections are also repaired at this time.

For both new and existing concrete, the mechanical process of polishing the concrete starts with coarse diamonds gradually moving through a series of steps to very fine grit diamonds. As the process continues through the series the level of gloss and clarity increases. The MJA Company will diamond polish the floor to your specifications and deliver the level of smoothness and gloss you prefer. During this process, special chemicals are used to harden and densify the concrete surface. This penetrating hardener becomes a permanent part of the concrete, thus eliminating the need for additional sealers, polishes or waxes.

### Wet polishing vs. Dry polishing

In the early years of diamond polished concrete,

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FOR POLISHED CONCRETE. SEE PAGE 3**

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water was required to prevent the resin-bonded diamonds from overheating during the polishing process and to keep the concrete dust from filling the room. This process is still used in certain polishing processes. The slurry created by the water and concrete dust has to be collected and disposed of in an environmentally responsible way.

Today, in addition to wet polishing, improved vacuum systems used in conjunction with changes in diamond technology allow for dry polishing. The vacuum system collects the concrete dust, eliminating the problem of dust being kicked up into the air from the action of the grinding machines.

### Advantages of Polished Concrete Floors

#### 1. Diamond polished concrete floors are cleaner and less expensive to maintain.

Diamond polished concrete eliminates concrete dusting that is common in unpolished floors. The result is less cleaning, lower maintenance cost and cleaner rooms from floor to ceiling. This is especially important in rooms that contain electronic and other devices that can sustain damage in dusty environments.

“  
...densified  
concrete is  
more resistant  
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impact and  
marking.  
”

#### 2. Polished concrete floors are dense, strong floors.

The diamond polishing process "tightens" the concrete surface, making them less porous and naturally resistant to the leading causes of concrete floor failure: moisture and chemical intrusion.

Unlike concrete coatings that lay on the surface of the floor and wear

away over time, the chemicals used in the polishing process penetrate the surface of the concrete and creates a permanent increase in wear resistance. The densified concrete is more resistant to abrasion, impact, and marking.

#### 3. Diamond polished concrete floors are naturally slip-resistant.

When properly maintained, diamond polished concrete floors retain the natural slip resistance of concrete. Whether wet or dry, properly polished concrete floors installed with the proper chemicals can be certified as "High-Traction" floors by the National Floor Safety Institute (NFSI).

Slip resistance is of prime importance to The MJA Company. On staff is Western New York's only ANSI accredited WACH (Walkway Auditor Certificate Holder) with extensive training and certification from the National Floor Safety Institute (NFSI). He is available to test and certify any polished concrete floor for slip resistance.

Diamond polished concrete floors are cost effective, aesthetically pleasing, and functional. When properly installed and maintained polished concrete floors will provide a low cost long term flooring solution.

The MJA Company is a certified member of the Concrete Polishing Council, a Division of the ASCC (American Society of Concrete Contractors.) This certification demonstrates the superior qualifications that our finishers meet in the specialized field of concrete polishing.



For more information about polished concrete and our project list, visit our website at [www.themjacountry.com](http://www.themjacountry.com)

## MJA PROJECTWATCH A few of the notable projects completed since our last issue

**Hotel Henry on The Richardson Olmstead Campus**  
Polished Concrete Floors  
3,115 sq. ft. || January, 2017

**Rich Products Executive Garage**  
Decorative Epoxy Coating  
500 sq. ft. || June, 2016

**Ted's Hot Dogs Corporate Office**  
Polished Concrete Floors  
2,850 sq. ft. || March, 2017

**Walnut Ave, Homes**  
Terrazzo Restoration  
2,500 sq. ft. || February, 2017

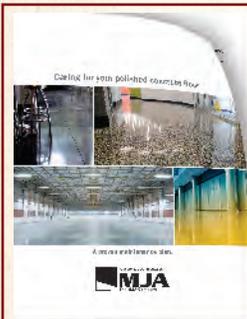
Contact The MJA Company for an extensive project list.  
We'll be happy to fill you in on all the details. (716) 831-7091



**The Historic  
Hotel Henry  
Buffalo, NY**

## Caring for your polished concrete floor

- **Sweep exterior entrance areas:** One of the easiest ways to prevent contamination of your floor is to be sure that entrance areas are swept daily. Sweeping helps keep your floor clean and increases walkway safety.
- **Protect interior entryways:** Sand, gravel, road salt, deicers and other contaminants can damage any floor. Interior entryways require special attention, especially in the winter and any time outdoor conditions are wet. To preserve your floor's finish, be sure that all interior entryways are cleaned of contaminants as needed.
- **Walk-off mats:** Prevent abrasion and contaminants before they hit the floor. Walk-off mats, cleaned on a regular basis, should be used at all points of entry to the floor. Mats will help prevent abrasive and liquid contaminants from affecting the floor's surface. If you do not already use a service that provides and replaces mats on a periodic schedule, please consider enlisting their services.
- **Clean spills immediately:** Staining and etching can occur with some spills, especially acidic food products, oils, chemicals, and high-pH liquids. Always clean spills immediately with pH-neutral, non-reactive cleaning solutions. Please contact The MJA Company for a list of recommended cleaning products.
- **Stain removal:** *If your floor has an uncleanable stain from a spill, please contact The MJA Company immediately for advanced stain removal procedure.* In some cases, we may recommend professional stain removal with specialized equipment and stain removers.
- **Dry mop or auto-scrub your floor at recommended intervals:** The frequency of dry-mopping or auto-scrubbing will depend on the amount and type of traffic your floor receives. Pads used on auto-scrubber/buffing machines must be compatible with diamond-polished floors. Please contact The MJA Company for a list of recommended buffing pads.



### You need this if you own a polished concrete floor.

Whether we polished your concrete floor or not, we're offering this **FREE PROVEN MAINTENANCE GUIDE** for polished concrete floors. It will give you all the step-by-steps to keeping your floor in top-notch shape.

Call 716-831-7091 for your free copy while supplies last.



The MJA Company's environmentally-friendly TerrazzoShine thermal sealing process eliminates the need for costly, time-consuming stripping and waxing. You'll save time and money with TerrazzoShine.

**Before TerrazzoShine:** Mechanical deterioration, chemical attack, residue, and contamination caused by cleaning and polishing agents diffuse and absorb light, reducing the floor's reflective characteristics.

**After TerrazzoShine:** The TerrazzoShine process corrects most mechanical deteriorations, restores areas damaged by chemical attacks, and removes residue, leaving a clean, smooth, polished, light-reflecting surface.



Your project. Our reputation.

Serving Business, Industry, and Homeowners Since 1988.

- Diamond Polished Concrete
- Epoxy and Polyaspartic Coatings
- Hardener / Densifier
- Concrete Dustproofing
- Crack Repair
- Control Joint & Saw Cut Filling
- Surface Repair
- Underlayments & Toppings
- Concrete Leveling
- Decorative Coloring
- Design Consultation
- Concrete Floor Performance Audits
- Certified Walkway Safety Audits

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## In this issue:

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- Restoring Terrazzo
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# Greetings From...

## Win Dinner for Two!

Just tell us in which WNY historic site this photo was taken for your chance at dinner for two. (A \$100 gift card to be used at the restaurant of your choice.)

Enter to win at [www.themjacompany.com](http://www.themjacompany.com), click the "Greetings From" icon at the top of the page.

**Enter Now! Contest Ends May 31, 2017.**

No purchase necessary. Must be at least 18 years of age and a legal resident of US to enter. Complete contest rules at [www.themjacompany.com/contestrules](http://www.themjacompany.com/contestrules)



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