

## APPLICATION:

Stenciled concrete offers a selection of patterns and finishing techniques to create the appearance of natural brick or stone in newly poured concrete or concrete overlays. Use BonWay™ True Color Hardener and Release Agent to achieve the desired color. Texture rollers or concrete brooms may be used to add realistic texture.

**NOTE: Paper Stencils should be applied with the shiny side facing up and the matte side on the concrete.**

## LAY-OUT AND DESIGN:

Consider the stencil pattern to be used when you are preparing the job. For rectangular or square patterns, such as Running Bond Brick, make sure the form work is square. If forms are not perfectly square, partial bricks or stones at the sides and ends of the pour will not be evenly sized.

Expansion joints should be placed with consideration of the pattern, so that joints will occur on a mortar joint rather than cut through the center of a brick or stone. If there is only one expansion joint, it should be placed halfway between the two sides, measuring to make sure that it is parallel to the sides.

## CONCRETE MIX DESIGN AND PLACEMENT:

Concrete slurry should have a slump of 4 to 5 inches, contain no calcium chloride and no more than 6% entrained air. It is preferable to keep entrained air below 3%. All fine and coarse aggregates must be totally non-reactive (free of deleterious particles.)

Stencils can also be used with BonWay™ resurfacing overlayment.

Place concrete, screed and float in a normal fashion. If you are going to apply Bon True Color, use only a wood or magnesium float at this point so that the surface will remain open to receive the color broadcast.

## PLACING AND EMBEDDING STENCILS:

Cut stencils into lengths approximately two feet longer than the formwork (end to end) of the slab. Strike a center line for reference, equi-distance from the ends and sides. While the concrete is still wet (surface should have a moist sheen), begin laying the lengths of stencils on the surface starting at one of the expansion joints or at either side.

Do this by having two people hold the stencil by the leading edges about 12 to 18 inches above the surface, while slowly letting the trailing ends lower onto the concrete. The long mortar joint at the trailing edge of the stencil should lie in the expansion joint or the form at the side if there is no expansion joint. The short mortar joints (those running perpendicular to the stencil pattern) should lie on the center line. If the trailing mortar joint does not land properly, pick up the stencil and repeat this step. Do not attempt to pull the stencil sideways to line it up with the center line or expansion joint as this will create wrinkles and distortion. Once the trailing edge of the stencil is properly placed, gently lower the leading edge onto the concrete, making sure that the short mortar joints land on the center line. Repeat these steps working outward to the sides and overlapping the mortar joint on the leading edge of the previous section of stencil. To tack down or embed the stencil into the concrete, use a BonWay™ stencil embedding roller (#22-151) or trowel over the stencil with a bull float or hand trowel. Do not embed the stencil too deeply or there will be cracking of the edges of the "stones or bricks" upon removal.

## COLORING THE CONCRETE:

When the stencils have been placed, embedded and all the bleed water is dispersed, the first application of BonWay™ True Color Hardener can be broadcast onto the slab surface. Apply the color hardener according to the directions on the pail. For more contrast in color, you can also use an application of BonWay True Color Release Agent. For all applications options see BonWay Color Chart. The grout lines created by stencils will remain uncolored. For a more realistic appearance, use a texture roller over the surface.



## STENCIL REMOVAL:

Remove the stencils when the concrete has stiffened sufficiently to allow clean edges on the bricks or stones. You can test this by lifting out a small portion of stencil along the end. In general, the stencils should be removed when pressing your finger on the surface no longer leaves an impression. Blow off loose particles and chips with a mechanical blower. Finish the surface by spraying on a light coat of BonWay™ Boss Gloss or Boss Matte Clear Enhancer. Dismantle forms.

## FINISHING EDGES:

If the edges of the slab will be exposed after landscaping, you can finish the edges as follows: Brush on a thick viscous mixture of BonWay™ True Color Hardener and water; using a BonWay™ touch up tool or detail chisel, mark the edge where the mortar joints should be located. Do this within 24 hours of the pour.

Five easy steps to change ordinary concrete into something "extraordinary"



1. Place stencils



2. Embed stencil with roller



3. Add True Color™ Hardener and float concrete



4. Add True Color™ Release and texture with roller



5. Remove stencils and seal

**NOTE:** These are very general instructions for a simple rectangular slab. For more detailed instructions on particular situations, please call our technical staff or visit our knowledge center at [www.bonway.com](http://www.bonway.com)

