



7. Apply a sealer after touch-up work is completed.

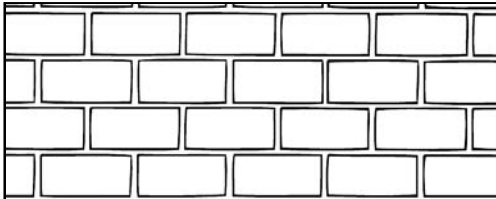
When all the touch up is completed, apply a cure and seal. This may be done with a sprayer or paint roller. If the job is designed to be grouted additional care must be exercised at this point. In order to achieve an adequate bond between the concrete and the grout material, care must be taken so that the sealer does not flow into the impressions. This can be accomplished by squeezing all the excess sealer from the roller and moving the roller gently across the concrete. A surface sealer is extremely important when grouting to insure that any excess grout be easily removed from the broad surfaces of the concrete.

**NOTE:** This brochure provides general advice. Bon Tool Co. assumes no responsibility for the application of this information nor guarantees results.



8. Finished product.

**#12-601  
RUNNING BOND PATTERN**



**NOTE:** Project photograph shows a BossCrete™ pattern that is no longer available at Bon Tool Co. current available pattern is #12-601 Running Bond

Distributed by:

**INSTRUCTIONS #12-601 BossCrete™ Concrete Embossing Tool**

**SUB-GRADE PREPARATION**

The sub-grade should be well drained and have adequate and uniform load bearing characteristics. It should be graded so that the thickness of the concrete will be uniform. The subgrade should be moist, completely consolidated, and free of frost when the concrete is poured. If necessary, it should be dampened in advance of concreting but there must be no free-standing water on the sub-grade nor any muddy, frozen or soft spots when the concrete is placed. Layering a crusher base or construction sand base over the natural soil is recommended to provide uniform drainage through the underlayment.

**CONCRETE MIX DESIGN**

The concrete mix should contain a minimum of six sacks of cement per cubic yard. All fine and coarse aggregates must be totally non-reactive (free of deleterious particles). It is recommended that the coarse aggregate be a minus 3/8". Larger aggregate tends to obstruct the BossCrete™ Tools. The water content should be the minimum practicable and the slump should not exceed four inches. A normal or retarded-set water reducing admixture may be used, but the concrete must not contain

any other admixture such as Calcium Chloride or waterproofing additives containing the same. For concreting in cold weather, a non-chloride accelerator may be used. Do not add high-range water reducing admixtures. An air-entraining admixture should be used if the concrete will be subject to freeze-thaw cycles or when required by the engineer.

Since imprinted concrete has all the basic design characteristics of ordinary concrete, reinforcing wire or reinforcing bar may be specified. Concrete should be four inches or greater in thickness.

**LAY-OUT AND DESIGN**

Consider the size of a single form when designing the total area to be stamped. If possible, design the work so that long lines of the pattern run across the line of sight. This will reduce straight line error, and provide a more pleasant appearance to the work.

After the concrete is placed and before the imprinting process begins, establish a reference line. This may be accomplished by running a tight line above the concrete for reference. This line will serve as a guide when the BossCrete™ Tools are placed in the concrete. Generally the pattern runs in straight lines, even when walks or drives are curved.

**PLACING CONCRETE**

Concrete should be placed following normal procedures. As always, consider weather conditions and take special precautions as necessary. Surrounding areas and adjacent surfaces should be protected. The concrete mix should be controlled to provide good batch-to-batch uniformity, and the slump should be consistent throughout the project at four inches or less.



1. Place concrete following normal procedures

**Bon**®  
Trusted since 1958

4430 Gibsonia Rd. • Gibsonia, PA 15044 • USA • [www.bontool.com](http://www.bontool.com)

Once placed and spread, the concrete should be lightly tamped with a Bon Tango Tamper (photo 2). The surface should be screeded to the finished grade specified plus or minus 1/8" in ten feet in any direction, then magnesium or wood float to the required flatness and slope. Use wood or magnesium floats only so that surface remains open and do not trowel until after the final application of Bon True Color™ Hardener.

**COLORING CONCRETE**

Color can be added to concrete using two methods. The first and simplest method adds color to the entire mix using Bon's Ironoxx™ Integral Coloring Agent. Ironoxx™ powdered pigment comes in 10 and 25 lb. bags for easy addition to the cement mixture.

The second method of adding color is to apply powdered shake-on color after the concrete is placed. Using Bon True Color™ Hardener, the installer broadcasts (photo 3) the color mixture onto the surface of the placed concrete in two applications. Two-thirds of the material should be dusted on at first and one-third should be withheld for the second shake and final touch-up. (Larger areas may require three applications.)

After initial floating and all excess water has dispersed, the first application of the Bon True Color™ Hardener may be applied. Because settling occurs during shipment, the hardener should be fluffed up/aerated by means of running your fingers through it several times, lifting and turning. Broadcast the first application and let it remain on the surface for several minutes or until the Bon True Color™ Hardener has moistened sufficiently. Then float in the color with a wood or magnesium float (photo 4).

Wait approximately ten minutes and then broadcast the second hardener application. Let it "wet out" for several minutes then trowel finish with a fresno or steel trowel (photo 5). Inspect the area for any "green spots" and touch up with additional color if necessary.

**CAUTION: WHEN USING COLOR HARDENER, DO NOT OVER FLOAT OR TROWEL. THIS WILL DRAW WATER AND REDUCE COLOR INTENSITY. DO NOT SPRINKLE OR FOG WATER ON CONCRETE. THIS WILL CAUSE VARIATION IN COLOR INTENSITY.**

**IMPRINTING CONCRETE**

Concrete imprinting may be accomplished with or without the use of plastic sheeting. Plastic sheeting laid over the still plastic concrete serves two basic functions. It allows easy release of the tools and it will enable the imprinting process to begin sooner than if a plastic sheet were not used, thus providing a longer period of time in which to work.

Plastic sheeting also gives greater imprint to the pattern. If plastic sheeting is used, select a material which is 1 Mil. thick. Stretch the plastic sheet over as wide an area as possible taking care to smooth out all of the wrinkles.



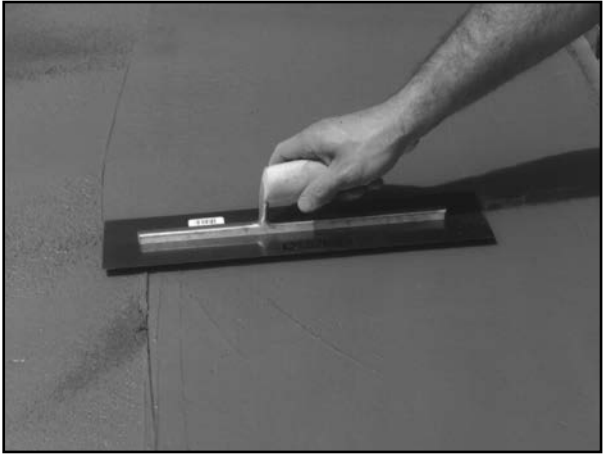
**2. Lightly tamp concrete and then screed to specified grade.**



**3. Once excess bleed water has dispersed, apply the first application of Bon True Color™**



**4. Use a wood or magnesium float after first application.**



**5. Trowel finish after final application of Bon True Color™ Hardener.**



**6. Imprint concrete with BossCrete™ imprinting tool.**

If working without plastic sheeting, it is recommended to use Bon's True Color™ Release Agent. This will allow easy removal of the Boss Crete™ tool and will add an attractive color accent. Begin by fluffing/aerating the contents in the pail to counteract settling and eliminate any clumps. Use the same method as the color hardener. Broadcast the release agent evenly across the entire surface of the concrete. Apply in sufficient quantity so that the sheen disappears from the surface of the concrete.

Using the reference line begin placing the BossCrete™ Tools along the reference line, moving in a convenient direction. If your first placement is against one side of the form, place the open side of the tool against the form. Proper pre-planning and placement of the reference line should enable the work to be completed evenly and quickly with a minimum of handwork.

At the optimum time for imprinting concrete, great force should not be necessary to drive the tool into the wet concrete. When using the imprinting tools, it should not be necessary to use a mallet or dead-blow hammer heavier than 3 pounds. The depth to which the tools are placed is a function of the design. The greater the depth of the impressions the more prominent the imprint of the pattern. Where heavy foot traffic is expected, the impressions should be relatively shallow, whereas areas to be grouted should be deeply impressed. Since time is important when using BossCrete™ Tools, imprinting should begin and proceed without delay. Handwork, where necessary, should also commence as soon as possible. When the imprinting is completed, remove the plastic sheet from the surface of the concrete. Inspect the work for areas which require deepening of the impression, extension of the lines and any imperfections that may require correction. (This step is performed using the chisel type hand tools, which are included with the main tool.)

As the surface of the concrete becomes firm, a broom finish may be applied. Simply drag a soft bristle broom across the concrete. This procedure will help hide any imperfections in the texture.