READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Terrazzo flooring rough-in inspection checklist

Terrazzo flooring rough-in is the last time the work is fully visible. Once the cover inspection passes and the walls, ceilings and slabs close, every defect left behind becomes a demolition bill. This checklist walks the rough-in in the order the work goes in, with the photo each item needs before it gets buried. Work is commonly verified against NTMA guidance, manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The terrazzo mechanic setting strips ahead of placement, with the GC's superintendent releasing the slab. When: After the slab is placed and cured and before the underbed goes down, early enough that a high spot or a live crack can still be dealt with under the system rather than through it.

Submittals and materials

- [ ] Approved color and aggregate samples on site for each mix
  The approved samples, and the mockup where one was built, kept at the work so each mix is compared before it's placed rather than after it's ground.
  No photo required

- [ ] Material labels match the approved terrazzo submittal
  Aggregate bags, binder and primer containers and the divider strip bundles match the approved submittal's product, color and lot.
  1 photo required

Substrate

- [ ] Slab flatness and soundness checked
  Slab straightedged for high and low spots, surface sound and free of curing compounds or bond breakers, moisture within the system's limit.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Isolation or crack-suppression membrane over joints
  Membrane continuous over control and construction joints where specified, lapped and turned up at edges, no gaps left over an active crack.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Slab mechanically prepared to the specified surface profile
  Slab shot-blasted, ground or scarified to the profile the terrazzo manufacturer lists for the system, laitance removed and dust vacuumed off.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Slab cracks treated before the system goes down
  Non-moving cracks filled with the manufacturer's crack treatment; moving cracks and joints left for the membrane or a strip on the layout.
  No photo required

Strip layout

- [ ] Divider and control strips set to the layout
  Strip pattern matches the approved shop layout, dividers placed over slab joints, lines straight and heights consistent.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Strips anchored true to line and grade
  Strips solidly bedded, not leaning or floating, top edge set to the finished grind height so aggregate exposes evenly.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Strips set at doorways and every change of flooring
  Strips aligned to door centerlines or frame faces as the layout shows, and a termination strip set at each transition to another floor finish.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Drains, cleanouts and floor boxes set to finished height
  Where items fall in the terrazzo, their frames set to the finish grade before placement, with strips patterned around them as the layout shows.
  No photo required

Underbed depth

- [ ] Underbed and matrix depth confirmed before placement
  Depth from strip top to substrate measured at several points, enough matrix over the underbed to grind and expose aggregate without hitting the bed.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Underbed reinforcing and cure checked where the system has one
  For sand-cushion or bonded systems, reinforcing lapped and positioned as detailed and the underbed cured as the manufacturer lists before the matrix goes on.
  No photo required

Placement conditions

- [ ] Air and slab temperature within the placement range
  Air and slab temperature read and within the manufacturer's range for the matrix, with permanent or temporary heat running; reading recorded.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Primer or bond coat applied as the manufacturer instructs
  Primer, slurry bond coat or isolation sheet placed for the system type, with the matrix following inside the window the manufacturer allows.
  No photo required

- [ ] Zone held closed to other trades from placement through cure
  The super has the area blocked in the schedule, with no carts, lifts or overhead work above the fresh matrix until it cures.
  No photo required