

## How Soon Can I Use My Newly Coated Floor?

The number one question our customers have after their floor coating has been applied, is – “How soon can I use it?” A few simple guidelines can help you determine when and under what conditions you can traffic your new floor coating.

### Is Your Coating Tack Free?

**Tack Free:** Tack Free does not necessarily mean you can drive on the coating. If the coating is still soft, driving on the coating could cause a permanent loss of gloss or leave an impression in the coating. Usually your coating will tolerate some traffic after 24 hours. It could take longer if your floor temperatures are below 60 degrees Fahrenheit or your building has humidity extremes (lots of humidity or none).

### Is Your Coating Fully Cured?

**14 Days:** Full coating properties normally take 14 days to develop. That means bond strength, chemical resistance, and hardness won't be at full strength for 2 weeks.

**Bond strength:** If you plan on parking on the coating, put cardboard down under the tires. Caution your forklift drivers about fast stops and starts. Always lift and place pallets rather than dragging. Always drive with forks above floor level.

**Chemical Resistance:** Be sure to clean up spills promptly. If you are unsure what chemicals will attack your coating, please review the applicable Technical Data Bulletin on Tennant's website at [www.tennantco.com](http://www.tennantco.com). If you are still unsure, call us at Hi-Tech Concrete Coatings, 800-220-2628 or call Tennant Floor Coatings, Technical Support at 1-800-553-8033 for assistance.

**Tire Marks:** If you plan on parking vehicles on your coating, remember rubber wheels can cause permanent plasticizer marks in the coating. If you have questions about tire marking, call either of the above referenced numbers for assistance.

**Hangar Floor Parking:** We highly recommend Lexan panels to place under aircraft tires. This is the only product we have found that protects against stains and impressions becoming imbedded in coating. Carpet mats are not recommended for under aircraft tires since they leave a slight “weave” impression in the coated surface. Please call our office at 1-800-220-2628 and we will provide contact information for you to place a direct order for Lexan panels.

**Hardness:** Full hardness also takes time to develop. Initially, your coating will be soft and could scratch easily. Remember all floor coatings will scratch under the right conditions, even after 14 days.

**Construction Work:** Although the floor is ready for usual activity for the industry in which it is installed, if further construction work is to be done after the 36 hour cure time, please adhere to the following guidelines to protect the coated surface:

- Use a dust mop to keep the floor swept clean of debris and nails or sharp objects.
- Depending on the task to be done and weight of tools used, place protective canvas, heavy duty plastic, or Masonite over the work area. Dropped tools can result in chipping.
- Do not spin tires on forklifts or other work equipment.
- Wipe up spills immediately with water and/or diluted mild detergent. If detergent is used, rinse with water to avoid detergent residue.

Considering these factors will prevent permanent damage to your coating. Please keep in mind that if your coating is damaged due to premature use, warranty consideration will not be given by Tennant Company or Hi-Tech Concrete Coatings, Inc.