OXITONE®
COLOUR

VARIOUS SIZES AVAILABLE:
(ACTUAL WEIGHTS FOR CONTAINER PRODUCT WILL VARY BY COLOUR DUE TO DIFFERENCES IN PRODUCT DENSITIES)

YIELD

Product	Oxide Dose per Bag
HandiCrete® 25kg	150 - 170 grams
Trade Mortar 30kg	350 - 370 grams
MortarPlaster 25kg	320 - 340 grams
High Strength HandiCrete 25kg	260 - 280 grams
Civil Crete 25kg	290 - 310 grams
Brick Mortar 30kg	330 - 350 grams
White or Grey Cement 20kg	700 - 900 grams

Dricon® Oxitone® is a range of synthetic iron oxide colours that are designed for the use in cement based products - concrete, mortar and plaster mixes.

THE ART OF COLOURING CONCRETE

Only three ingredients are required to produce concrete, cement, water and filler. The filler is usually a mixture of one or more types of aggregate.

Anything other than these 3 basic components that is added to a concrete mixture is to create some kind of effect. This effect can either be a chemical effect (such as a slowing of the hydration process) or a physical effect (such as changing the colour of the final concrete).

Iron oxide pigment particles surround the cement component of concrete and get locked into the concrete following the hydration process, imparting their colour onto the concrete.

The intensity of the final concrete colour will depend on two main factors:

- The tinting strength or colour intensity of a pigment
- The quantity of pigment added to concrete (loading). This is usually measured as a percentage of cement weight. Colour intensity increases rapidly as pigment loading is increased from 0 – 4 % of cement weight.

DIRECTIONS

A good depth of colour is achieved at 4 % pigment to cement weight. Mix Dricon® OxiTone® thoroughly with dry ingredients, then add water. Mix until a workable consistency is achieved.

CEMENT COLOUR

The natural cement colour will affect the final concrete colour. Concrete made with grey Portland cement will not produce a result as bright as using white Portland cement.

WATER

One of the biggest influences on the colour of concrete is the amount of water. The water to cement ration must be consistently maintained to avoid colour variation.

FOR BEST RESULTS

The pigment should be free of impurities that could either allow variation of colour in the final product or interfere with the hydration process. Dricon® OxiTone® Pigments are specially formulated for concrete and are free from damaging impurities.

Pigment must not be regarded as a 'magic' powder that will mask defects in concrete product. If anything, pigment will highlight the defects rather than mask them. In the preparation of good concrete, a number of factors must be taken into account:

Cement Colour – the natural colour will affect the final concrete colour. Concrete made with grey Portland cement will not produce a result as bright as using white cement.

Mix design – ensuring that the aggregate components are properly balanced and that the aggregate to cement ratio is suitable for the final product strength required.

Air Voids – it is known that for every 1% air trapped in hardened concrete, 5 - 6% of the compressive strength is lost. To achieve maximum strength it is essential that compaction is undertaken, either by pressing, vibration or both.

Curing – it is essential that concrete does not dry out before the hydration or curing reaction is complete. Variation in curing conditions will result in variation of colour in pigmented concrete. In hot summer weather, slow the hardening process by keeping the surface damp.

OXITONE®

DRICON® TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

BENEFITS

→ Manufactured to exact coloured oxide/oxide manufacturing standards
→ Meets or exceeds standards for the use of colour for concrete, mortars and plaster applications
→ Colour resistant and colour stable
→ Can also be used with a wide range of Dricon® premix products
→ Won't contribute to efflorescence

AVAILABLE COLOURS

BLACK	DARK RED	WHITE	DARK BROWN
LIGHT BROWN	MARIGOLD	YELLOW	

IMPORTART INFORMATION

During and after the hydration process an apparent loss of colour can appear. This 'fading' is usually associated with efflorescence, a white powdery bloom that covers the concrete surface, masking the colour beneath. It is caused by the reaction between carbon dioxide (from air) and lime water (from the cement hydration process) and, once formed, is very difficult to remove. Adherence to good concrete production methods, producing a dense concrete with a low water to cement ration under good curing conditions will greatly reduce the chances and effects of efflorescence.

DANGER

- Causes skin irritation
- May cause respiratory irritation
- Causes serious eye damage
- If medical advice is needed, have product container or packaging at hand

PREVENTION

- Only use outdoors or in a well-ventilated area
- Avoid breathing dust
- Wear protective clothing – safety goggles and a P2 dust mask must be worn
- Contaminated clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace

RESPONSE

IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. Take off contaminated cloth and wash before reuse. If skin irritation or rash occurs, get medical advice/attention.

IF INHALED: Move to fresh air and keep resting in a position comfortable for breathing.

IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses if worn and easy to do. Continue to rinse.

Immediately call the NATIONAL POISON CENTRE 0800 764 766 or doctor/physician.

GENERAL INFORMATION

If only part of the bag is required, mix the entire contents of the bag together first in a dry state, return the unwanted portion to the bag or alternatively a dry sealed container, then follow the instructions.

All mortars and concrete products may exhibit a temporary 'whitening', otherwise known as efflorescence which neither affects strength nor durability.

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