

# Qualities of *Concrete*



A GUIDE TO THE UNIQUE  
QUALITIES OF CONCRETE

**blend.** CONCRETE  
DESIGN

# Introduction



The unique qualities of concrete allow Blend Concrete Design to produce pieces that are perfectly tailored to any space. Blend Concrete Design embraces the natural and raw textures and tonal qualities of concrete to create

pieces that are truly one of a kind. Air pockets, colour variation and natural patina are distinctive qualities of this unique material, which we believe only add to the character and beauty of our pieces.

# GFRC

We create pieces using glass fibre reinforced concrete (GFRC). By adding glass fibres into the mix, the strength of the concrete is increased which eliminates the need for steel reinforcement. This increased strength allows us to pour GFRC far thinner than traditional concrete, making pieces lighter and easier to transport.



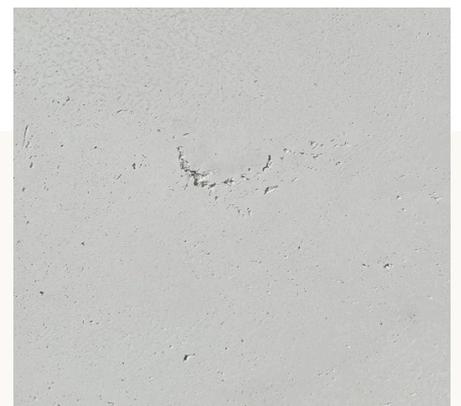
^ TRADITIONAL CONCRETE



^ GLASS FIBRE REINFORCED CONCRETE

## Glass Fibres

Due to the nature of the material, glass fibres are sometimes visible on the surface of the product. The fibres are translucent white in colour, making them relatively inconspicuous.

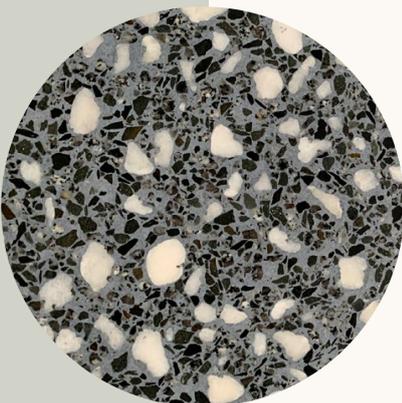
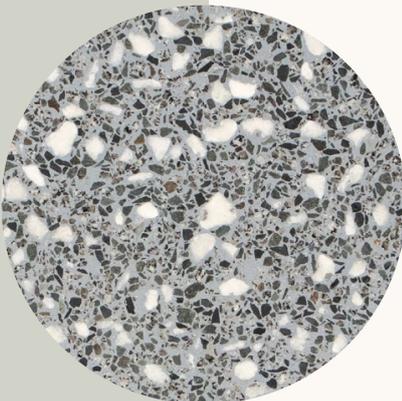
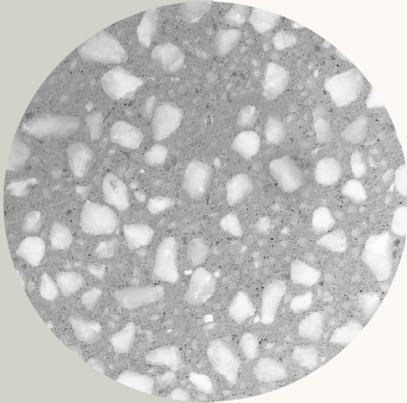


# Terrazzo

**Blend Concrete Design produces terrazzo by combining GFRC and decorative aggregate to create a mosaic-like appearance.**

Whilst we can control the type and amount of aggregate included in the mix, the handcrafted nature of the product means we have little control over the aggregate dispersal. The arrangement and spacing of the aggregate won't be exactly even.

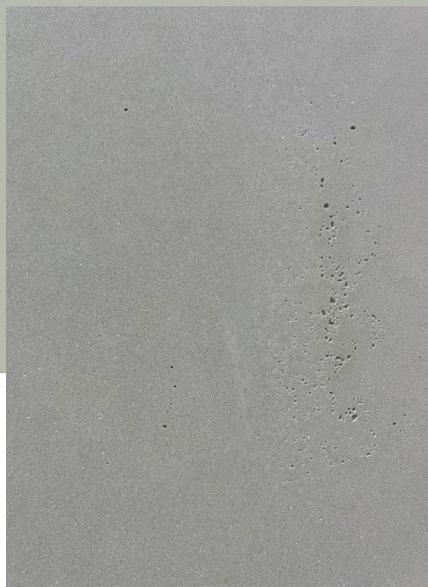
The aggregate is exposed through a process of manually grinding back the concrete. This process is done by hand. Whilst we strive for consistent aggregate exposure, there will be some variation in the surface finish.



# Air Pockets

We have developed mould fabrication and concrete pouring techniques which minimise the likelihood of air pockets. Air pockets often feature on the surfaces of our pieces due to the natural qualities of concrete and the handcrafted nature of our products.

**We believe unique and varied airpockets only add to the character of our pieces!**



# Final Layer



Concrete is naturally a porous material. We apply layers of high quality sealant to protect our pieces from stains and scratches.

We have tested a variety of sealants to provide our clients with the best protection for their piece. However, similar to other materials such as stone or timber, if you don't properly care for your piece it may be stained or scratch.

**Be sure to follow the care and maintenance guide available on our website to best care for your concrete piece.**

# Ageing

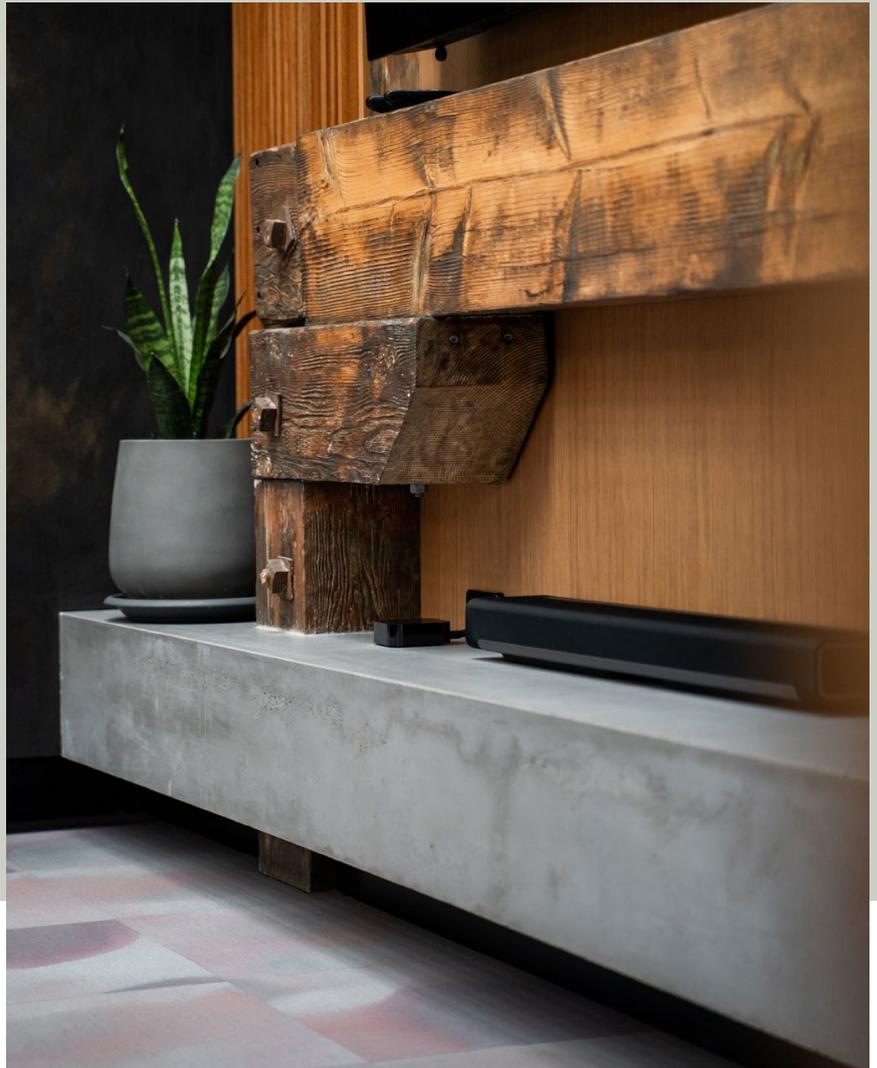
Natural ageing and patina are part of the lifecycle of a concrete piece. Your concrete piece will change over time. We believe that this only enhances its beauty and uniqueness.



# Colour Variation

We offer a range of concrete colours which are pigment based. To create these colours we add a percentage of oxide into our GFRC mix. We try our best to match the hues in our colour range, however slight variations in colour are to be expected.

Due to the handcrafted nature of our products, there is often variation in colour across surfaces. Colour variation varies from piece to piece, however it is often more visible in darker colours and across larger surfaces.





**STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Head to the knowledge base on our website or  
get in touch via email

[info@blendconcretedesign.com.au](mailto:info@blendconcretedesign.com.au)