



"Is graphic concrete safe to use?" and other frequently asked questions

We are asked questions all the time about the price, durability and attributes of graphic concrete, as well as the benefits of using it. Many of our clients are curious to know whether the surface is ready as is, what kind of maintenance is required and whether it is expensive to use. Here are answers to some of the questions we have been asked lately.

Where can graphic concrete be used?

Graphic concrete can be used in nearly any concrete element prefabrication process, including sandwich elements. It is ideal for projects in which the concrete surface will be exposed to extreme conditions (e.g. for tall buildings and infrastructure projects), but it can also be used for interiors and art projects.

Can graphic concrete be used with glass reinforced concrete (GRC)?

We only have good experiences with graphic concrete surfaces made out of fiber or glass reinforced concrete. We work closely with GRC manufacturers around the world. GRC surfaces are particularly suitable for renovation and interior projects due to their thinness and lightness.

How durable are graphic concrete surfaces?

Graphic concrete does not affect the durability of concrete. Graphic concrete surfaces have all the attributes of concrete, so they are just as durable as concrete itself. Durability is always determined by the quality of the concrete. The surface pattern will not wear out over time unless it is exposed to mechanical stress. The colour of the stone also does not change over time. The permanence of colour pigment is determined by the quality of the pigments themselves, and graphic concrete has no effect on this.

Is graphic concrete safe to use?

Graphic concrete is environmentally friendly and a safe part of the concrete element prefabrication process. The graphic concrete membrane does not contain any dangerous substances. In a factory environment the use of a graphic concrete membrane reduces exposure to various solvents, detergents and dust. After use the membrane can be recycled.

How should graphic concrete be maintained?

Compared to other kinds of facade surfaces, graphic concrete is practically maintenance-free. This minimises maintenance expenses over the entire lifecycle of the building. Graphic concrete surfaces can also be treated with concrete and stone protectors, such as impregnation and graffiti protection substances.

Will graphic concrete increase the cost of our project?

A facade always requires a visual look, regardless of what material is used. Graphic concrete is a great choice for a facade because of the visuality it offers, but also its cost-efficiency. Graphic concrete saves both time and money, as the elements are delivered ready for installation and there is no need for additional upholstery. When the technical details regarding a project are taken into consideration, a cost-effective solution can always be achieved by planning the details well. Our project consultants always work hard to achieve the most cost-effective solution.

I have a project where I would like to use graphic concrete, where do I start?

Choose a pattern from our collection or design your own. Inform all parties included in the project about the use of GC. Include information about the design chosen in all construction documentation. Get in touch with our local representative, and tell us about the project.

Do you sell concrete elements?

We produce and deliver the membrane only. The elements are cast locally, using local materials.

Are there limits to the size of the element?

The membrane can be continued to fit any element size.

Can you use graphic concrete for on site (in-situ) casting?

The membrane is normally used in a horizontal position in order to provide the best results.

How can I make my projects as cost-effective as possible?

The most cost efficient choice is to use a repetitive pattern in high volumes. With regards to the design, there are three basic ways to make the use of graphic concrete more economical:

1. Use a repetitive pattern instead of a unique image
2. The smaller the repetitive pattern (=report) is, the more cost efficient it becomes
3. Using one repetitive pattern in high volumes (m²) decreases the unit price of our membrane

Does the concrete recipe affect the cost?

It doesn't affect the price of the membrane, but it might affect the price of the concrete. Please ask your local precaster for more information.

Can you help when designing the image?

Yes. We provide instructions for preparing your image for printing; please request the instructions from our office. We also provide assistance when needed. Please contact your assigned project manager for more information.

Who orders the membrane?

The orders are normally made by the prefabrication company. However in some cases the constructor takes care of the order.

Who can cast graphic concrete?

In the Nordic countries most of the prefabrication companies are familiar with our product. Elsewhere, we are happy to provide you with the information about suitable prefabrication companies. If you are a prefabricator and wish to get to know our technique, you can download basic information here or please get in contact with our local representative.

More questions?

*Any questions you would like to ask? Feel free to send me an email or give me a call +359 40 170 82 22!
All contact details can also be found on our website.*

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