

## PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

ARTesian Stain is a penetrating, water-based stain that produces unique color effects on finished cementitious surfaces that simulate the natural shadings and aged appearance of stone or masonry. The color effect produced is unique to each stained surface and cannot be duplicated with other materials. ARTesian Stain contains no acids or harmful chemicals and works as an alternative to typical reactive acid stains. ARTesian Stain may be applied to any properly prepared vertical or horizontal concrete surface, cement-based overlays, some masonry surfaces, artificial rock displays, water features, themed finishes, or pre-cast concrete products. Greens and Blues, unlike reactive stains, can be used outdoors.

## FEATURES

- < 100 VOC
- Water-based
- Fade-resistant
- Contains no acid
- Interior/exterior use
- Unlimited effects and color combinations

## COVERAGE RATES & PACKAGING

- Available in 1 gallon (3.8 liter) containers, 4 containers per case.
- Brickform ARTesian Stain will cover approximately 250 ft<sup>2</sup> (23.23 m<sup>2</sup>) to 300 ft<sup>2</sup> (27.87 m<sup>2</sup>) per gallon.
- Available in 20 standard colors.

## STORAGE & SHELF LIFE

- Store in a dry, safe place with containers tightly sealed. **DO NOT** allow product to freeze.
- Shelf life is approximately 24 months.

## USE & APPLICATION

### PRECAUTIONS:

Brickform strongly recommends jobsite samples or mockups with these products. Individuals who will be performing the work should use the specified materials, as well as the finishing and curing techniques that will be used on the project.

- ARTesian Stain is translucent and will look different on every slab. Variations in cement color, finishing techniques, and surface preparation will have an effect on the final color outcome. ARTesian Stain will not hide existing concrete discoloration, blemishes, cracks, or other surface problems. Concrete composition, porosity, age, texture, and surface characteristics will also affect penetration and final color results. Applications on overlays will typically yield stronger colors and samples should be made using the application method planned for the field installation. Colored concrete will also have an impact on the final color outcome.

- The color chart is a general guideline and should be used as such. ARTesian Stain should be applied when the air temperature is between 50°F (10°C) and 90°F (32°C). Protect all surrounding areas to reduce the possibility of staining during application. Please obtain a copy of the appropriate Technical Information Sheet and SDS for each product before attempting to use.

- ARTesian Stain is recommended for cured concrete. However, applications over freshly placed concrete are not uncommon. The stain is non-reactive and will not be affected by the curing process. Interaction between the color of the concrete and the stain can change, as freshly placed concrete is typically darker than cured concrete. Slight variations can be expected in the stain colors as the concrete lightens over time.



### PREPARATION:

Surface preparation is the most important process when using any topically applied product available from Brickform. Brickform follows the surface preparation techniques recommended by the International Concrete Repair Institute outlined in its Guideline No. 310.2R Selecting and Specifying Concrete Surface Preparation for Sealers, Coatings, and Polymer Overlays. This Guideline is available at [icri.org](http://icri.org) and Brickform highly recommends obtaining a copy and thoroughly familiarizing yourself with the various processes for accurately preparing concrete slabs.

- Surface preparation requirements are different for every slab and the installer must determine what process is appropriate for the slab they are working on. The recommended surface profile for Brickform ARTesian Stain is a CSP 1 or CSP2 as defined by the Guideline 310.2R mentioned above. Generally speaking, the slab must exhibit a profile similar to that of 100- 120 grit sandpaper and must be absorptive to water. The application area must be profiled and then thoroughly cleaned. All grease, oil, stains, liquid release residue, rust, sealers, waxes, etc must be completely removed prior to application of the product. Mechanical removal of these may prove aesthetically displeasing. There are a number of stain and wax removers and enzymatic cleaners available either commercially or via the internet that work well in these situations. Old sealers and cure and seal products must be removed as well. Brickform's Strip-It is an alternative to mechanical methods for their removal.
- The use of Brickform E-Etch, a mild etching and cleaning solution, followed by Brickform Neutra-Clean and clean water rinses may be appropriate for the slab. Acid etching with Muriatic (Hydrochloric) Acid solutions may be appropriate for slabs that require more aggressive etching and cleaning. Solutions as light as 1:20 (acid: water) to as heavy as 1:1 may be necessary depending on the slab finish. When acid washing, it is very important to protect surrounding areas from damage. Plant and animal life, certain finishes on houses, metals, and other materials can all be negatively impacted if acid solutions are not used responsibly. Be sure and wear proper personal protec-

tive equipment when acid washing. Always pre-wet slabs that are to be acid washed and always neutralize the slab with Brickform Neutra Clean following the acid wash. Do not allow acid solutions to dry on the slab as dried residues will prevent the sealer from bonding. See [www.brickform.com](http://www.brickform.com) for a video on How to Acid Wash Concrete.

- When cleaning older, cured concrete, use pressure washing equipment with a minimum of 3000 psi at 4 gallons per minute. Rotary floor scrubbers with black or red pads are effective for cleaning flat floors. When using rotary floor scrubbers on stamped slabs, nylon bristle brush attachments are necessary to reach imprinted areas effectively.

**Note: When cleaning freshly placed concrete, make sure the concrete is strong enough to avoid damaging the surface.**

Surface preparation videos can be viewed at [www.brickform.com](http://www.brickform.com)

#### APPLICATION:

- Thoroughly mix ARTesian Stain prior to use. If you have jugs with different lot numbers, combine them and mix to ensure even coloration throughout the project. ARTesian Stain may be applied full strength or diluted with water to desired rate. Divide work area into manageable sections, utilizing natural break points such as walls, joints, or other features. It is important to control wet edges to minimize overlap marking during application. Do not walk on wet stain.
- Dampen (spray or mist with a hose, no ponding water) the slab with water prior to applying the stain. Apply ARTesian Stain with a plastic pump up type sprayer. Use caution to avoid track lines from the spray pattern. A circular motion with the wand is desired.
- Applying additional coats is optional. Supplementary colors may be combined at desired rates and number of coats. Customarily apply lighter colors first. In addition to spraying, some applicators employ mopping, sponging, and ragging, especially for accenting.
- Do not over apply stain as excessive pigment will sit on the surface and cause problems with sealer adhesion. Stain that can be easily removed (with your finger or a rag) following the application to the slab indicates that the material was not able to penetrate and that additional preparation measures will be necessary.
- The second or final coat of stain should then remain undisturbed until completely dry.
- Many different techniques can be used to achieve unique, artistic looks with the ARTesian Stain. Mixing different colors together, applying "highlight" colors over other colors while they are still wet, rag rolling, sponging and other faux finishing techniques are all acceptable when using the ARTesian Stain.

ARTesian stain application videos are available for viewing at [www.brickform.com](http://www.brickform.com)

#### SEALING

Brickform ARTesian Stain must be sealed. Failure to seal and maintain sealer will result in premature wear and fading. Allow ARTesian Stain to completely dry prior to sealing. Drying times will vary depending on ambient conditions. For example, exterior applications on a sunny, warm day may be ready for sealer in a couple of hours. A cool basement may take as long as 24 hours. Use of fans to assist drying in interior applications is recommended. Prior to applying sealer, the dry substrate should be agitated with a broom followed by a leaf blower or vacuum to remove excess pigment.

Use Brickform Gem Cure & Seal, Gem-Seal, Poly-Seal, Gem-Guard or Safety-Seal for all exterior, "wet look" applications. Poly-Astic can be used to seal interior projects only if extremely good ventilation is possible. If a water-based product is desired for low odor, interior applications, use Decopoxy and/or Uremax. Once sealed, protect the surface from foot traffic for 24 hours and vehicular traffic for 5 days.

#### MAINTENANCE

The sealed surface should be inspected periodically for areas of thin or traffic-worn sealer. Brickform recommends the reapplication of sealer as needed. If traces of efflorescence are present, this should first be eliminated with a gentle cleaner such as Brickform E-Etch. Brickform recommends the application of Brickform Premium Acrylic Floor Finish as a sacrificial coating on interior surfaces, reapply as needed, according to the appropriate Technical Information Sheet.

#### RECOMMENDED TOOLS & CLEAN UP

- Swissmex MX Sprayer
- HVLP Sprayer
- Brushes

#### CLEAN UP:

Clean tools and equipment with soap and water

#### COMPLEMENTARY PRODUCTS

- E-Etch - Cleaning and etching agent, efflorescence removal
- Neutra Clean - Cleaning and neutralizing agent
- Brickform Sealers
- Premium Acrylic Floor Finish (interior surfaces)



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## SAFETY & PRECAUTIONS

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. Before using or handling, read the Safety Data Sheet and Warranty. DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. When working with or near this product, all personnel must wear MSHA-NIOSH approved respirators (refer to OSHA standards in 29 CFR 1910.134). Prolonged, unprotected exposure may result in non-reversible Silicosis or Lung Cancer. Avoid inhalation and use local exhaust fans to keep exposures below OSHA PELs for silica and nuisance dusts. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Wear rubber gloves and aprons to protect skin and wear safety eye goggles. Wash splatters from skin immediately. Use good hygiene when handling this product and wash and bathe after each use. Close containers after each use. Be sure to wash clothing after each use.

## WARRANTY

This product is not intended for public use and is intended for use by licensed contractors and installers, experienced and trained in the use of these products. It is warranted to be of uniform quality, within manufacturing tolerances. The manufacturer has no control over the use of this product, therefore, no warranty, expressed or implied, is or can be made either as to the effects or results of such use. In any case, the manufacturer's obligations shall be limited to refunding the purchase price or replacing material proven defective. The end user shall be responsible for determining product's suitability and assumes all risks and liability.

For more information go to:  
[solomoncolors.com](http://solomoncolors.com) or [brickform.com](http://brickform.com)

