

Polished concrete is an architectural finish that combines diamond grinding, honing, and polishing to produce a smooth surface that is durable, light reflective, and easy to maintain. Achieving this finish and delivering the final product to the owner requires protection of the concrete surface:

- After initial slab placement (post-placement); and
- After polishing is complete (post-polishing).

There may be an expectation that the post-placement and post-polishing protection will be provided by polishing contractors. But that expectation will not be realized because the polishing contractor is not on site when the concrete slab is placed and leaves the site after the slab is polished. Thus, polishing contractors are not present during the needed protection periods.

In addition, protection of the concrete surface requires authority to control the activities and schedule of other follow-on trades. Polishing contractors don't control the the trades because they do not have this contractual authority. Nor do they have responsibility for the other trades' personnel, schedule, or work.

Thus, post-placement and post-polishing slab protection must be provided by an organization that meets the following requirements:

- It is on site after initial slab placement and until the building is turned over to the owners; and
- It has the responsibility and authority to control the activities and schedule of other trades.

The construction manager, builder, or possibly the owner are the only members of the construction team that meet the requirements for providing protection of the slab. Diagrind do not meet either of the two requirements.

Upon request, PCCA can assist builders and owners in developing an appropriate Concrete Floor Protection Plan or both post-placement and post-polishing slab protection. Signage, can be an effective, in addition, other trade contractors can have language in their subcontracts requiring them to adhere to the Concrete Floor Protection Plan.

PCCA will cooperate with construction managers, builders and owners in developing a Concrete Floor Protection Plan for each specific project. However, the post-placement and post-polishing slab protection are the responsibility of other parties.



PCCA Position Statement #1 Slab Protection by Others

Concrete Floor Protection Plan



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