

How Much Does Polished Concrete Floors Cost in Australia? [2024]: An Overview

Polished concrete floors have gained popularity in Australia for both residential and commercial spaces.

These floors offer a modern aesthetic with minimal maintenance requirements. However, one of the most critical factors to consider when choosing polished concrete is the cost, which can vary based on the type of polishing technique and other variables.

How Much Does Polished Concrete Floors Cost in Australia?

The cost of polished concrete floors typically ranges between \$50 and \$65 per square meter, with the overall price for an average space landing around \$2,500. The cost depends on the polishing technique used, the condition of the existing floor, and several other factors, which we'll discuss further.

Here's a breakdown of the most common types of concrete polishing techniques and their average prices:

- **Grind and Seal:** Priced around \$50 per square meter, this is the most affordable option. It involves grinding the concrete and applying a non-penetrating sealer to achieve a polished appearance.
- **Honed Concrete:** Costing approximately \$75 per square meter, this method uses a penetrating sealer, making the surface more durable than grind and seal.
- **Mechanically Polished Concrete:** The most expensive

option, it starts at \$100 per square meter. It involves a multi-step process where finer grits of sandpaper are used, along with a densifier, to produce a glossy, long-lasting finish.

Factors That Affect the Cost of Polished Concrete Floors

Several factors can influence the final cost of your polished concrete floor:

- **Size of the Area:** Smaller areas may be proportionally more expensive because they require more precision and setup time.
- **Condition of the Floor:** Floors with existing cracks or rough surfaces will need additional preparation, increasing labor costs.
- **Type of Finish:** Custom finishes, such as exposed aggregate or colored concrete, typically result in higher prices.
- **Level of Gloss:** High-gloss finishes tend to be more expensive than matte finishes due to the extra polishing required.
- **Accessibility:** The ease with which workers and equipment can access the area will also affect the cost. Difficult-to-reach spaces require more time and specialized machinery, driving up the price.

Types of Concrete Polishing

There are three primary methods for polishing concrete, each with its own pricing and durability level:

1. **Grind and Seal:** The most budget-friendly option, this

method involves grinding the concrete and applying a sealer. It's ideal for low-traffic areas but requires refinishing every 5 to 10 years. Cost: \$50 per square meter.

2. Honed Concrete: Similar to grind and seal but with a penetrating sealer that offers greater longevity and durability. It's better suited for areas with moderate foot traffic. Cost: \$75 per square meter.
3. Mechanically Polished Concrete: The highest quality finish, this method uses progressively finer grits of sandpaper until the floor achieves a smooth, glossy look. It's extremely durable and can withstand heavy foot traffic for years. Cost: \$100+ per square meter.

Maintenance Tips for Polished Concrete Floors

Polished concrete floors are relatively low-maintenance but still require care to maintain their appearance and longevity. Here are some essential maintenance tips:

- **Regular Cleaning:** Sweep or vacuum frequently to remove dirt and debris. Use a soft-bristle broom or microfibre mop to avoid scratching the surface.
- **Avoid Harsh Chemicals:** Use pH-neutral cleaning solutions, as acidic or abrasive cleaners can damage the polish.
- **Spill Management:** Clean spills immediately to prevent staining or etching on the surface.
- **Resealing:** Consider resealing every one to three years, depending on traffic levels, to preserve the floor's finish.
- **Impact Protection:** Avoid dragging heavy or sharp objects across the surface. Use felt pads on furniture to prevent scratches.

- Rugs and Mats: Place rugs or mats in high-traffic areas to protect the finish from excessive wear.

Why Hire an Experienced Concrete Polisher?

Choosing the right contractor is vital for achieving a professional finish on your polished concrete floor. Experienced professionals have the knowledge and tools to produce flawless results, ensuring the durability of your floor for years to come. Look for contractors with proven experience, good reviews, and the necessary licenses and insurance.

Is Polished Concrete a Long-Term Value?

Though polished concrete floors may come with a range of price points, the long-term benefits they offer are significant. These floors enhance the visual appeal of your space, are incredibly durable, and are easy to maintain, making them an excellent investment. Whether you choose to grind and seal for a budget-friendly option or a mechanically polished floor for high-traffic areas, understanding the associated costs and selecting the right contractor ensures a successful project.

In conclusion, polished concrete floors offer style, durability, and low maintenance. By factoring in size, condition, and type of finish, you can estimate the cost and make an informed decision. With proper care and regular maintenance, these floors will continue to shine and elevate the ambiance of your space for many years to come.