

matcrete

THE ULTIMATE IN CONCRETE DESIGN

EPS FORMLINERS

DESCRIPTION AND BASIC USE • EPS Formliners are constructed from expanded polystyrene (styrofoam). EPS Formliners leave a smooth, easy to finish surface for countertops, steps, pool coping and wall caps.

LIMITATIONS • Petroleum-based form oils should be avoided.

SIZES • EPS Formliners are available in 9 foot lengths. 6" Tall Reusable Formliners - 6" x 96" (15.24 x 243.84 cm) = 126 linear feet per box and 7.5" Tall Reusable Formliners - 7.5" x 96" (19.05 x 243.84 cm) = 90 linear feet per box.

PREPARATION OF SUB GRADE • The subgrade must be uniformly graded, compacted and moistened, but free of standing water. Avoid placing concrete over soft, frozen, or muddy spots. Follow professional standards and practices, including those published by the American Concrete Institute (ACI).

PREPARATION FOR FORMLINER INSTALLATION • Preparation techniques may vary according to type of application. To properly release forms, the use of non-stick cooking spray is recommended. Spray forms approximately 5 to 15 minutes prior to placing concrete. For additional reinforcement, once formliner has been set; it is recommended to use a break-away tie wire with washer every 9 to 14 inches at the top third of the formliner. Tie wires should run through the backside of the formliner and attach to screws or nails embedded into the horizontal surface 6 to 8 inches from the edge of the formliner. Break-away tie wires have a serration that severs back into the concrete prior to removing the formliner.

CONCRETE & MASONRY: The use of concrete screws with washers are suitable when attaching EPS Formliners to concrete or masonry materials. A 3.25" concrete screw with washer is recommended every 9 to 14 inches at the bottom half of the formliner.

WOOD: The use of finishing nails or drywall screws with washers are suitable when attaching EPS Formliners to wood. A 3.25" drywall screw with washer or finishing nail is recommended every 9 to 14 inches at the bottom half of the formliner.

TILE: The use of double sided tape is suitable when attaching EPS Formliners to tile. The tile must be clean and free of dust before setting the formliner. Apply double sided tape (one foot at a time) near the bottom half of the formliner and stick the formliner to the tile with the bottom of the decorative profile edge level with the top of the tile.

PREPARATION OF CONCRETE • The concrete should be designed to meet the strength and finishing requirements of the project with a slump of 4 to 6 inches, achieved by using a water reducer. The higher slump allows the mix to flow easier, increasing detail. Use of a plasticizer will minimize air voids. Avoid overly sandy mixes or mixes with high air-entrainment. These types of mixes can be sticky and promote bug holes. Pea gravel is recommended in the mix since oversized aggregate can cause chipping or honeycombing on the vertical surface.

CONCRETE PLACEMENT • Once the concrete is placed and leveled out, the use of a concrete vibrator along the inside edge of the formliner is recommended. The use of a concrete vibrator will help eliminate honeycombing and promote a smoother finish. Use a straight edge to screed off excess concrete then float and trowel to the desired finish.

FORM REMOVAL AND FINISHING • EPS Formliners can be removed as soon as the concrete can support its own weight. To remove the formliners, first snap off the tie wires by twisting the break-away tie wires clockwise. Next, remove screws or nails from formliners and peel the top of the form back and away from the concrete. Upon removal of the formliner, the use of a profile finishing tool is recommended to finish the vertical surface of the concrete.