

# How to get started!

- *a Conteco-guide for beginners!*

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**What you need to get started:**

- ✓ A steel-, plastic-, or rubber trowel
- ✓ A painting brush
- ✓ A painting roll for sealer
- ✓ A pair of working gloves
- ✓ A dust mask
- ✓ A power drill + a drill mixer
- ✓ A bucket for mixing concrete
- ✓ A water atomizer
- ✓ Masking tape
- ✓ Sandpaper grit 120/150

If used in new bathroom constructions, wet room waterproofing is required before applying Conteco, using following products (according to ETA Denmark):

- ✓ Ardex 7+8 adhesive
- ✓ Ardex SK100W deckweb
- ✓ Tools for installation

**Getting the look right:**

Conteco allows you to leave your own personal mark on your project and create unique surfaces in concrete. The play of colors on the surface depends on the tool you are using for application. By using a steel trowel, you will obtain a blazing look with a lot of texture. A rubber trowel will create a smoother/more even look, whereas using a plastic trowel will result in a combination of these. Please note that the amount of water used during the application process will affect the texture and play of colors in the surface as well. The more water you use - the more dramatic look you will get.

**Building up layers:**

The construction of Conteco depends on your project, as well as the surface you want to obtain. Using Conteco Medium as the final layer before Conteco Color Sustainer, will give a rustic surface, whereas Conteco Fine gives a smoother and more even surface. For more information on the composition of layers, please see the charts on the last pages.

**Mixing Conteco Color:**

The color of Conteco depends on the amount of Conteco Color Pigment added to Conteco Basic/Medium/Fine. We recommend using a kitchen scale for measuring, as even the slightest difference in weight will influence the color.

Conteco Color Pigment pr. kilogram Conteco B/M/F for the following colors:

Concrete Light = 1 grams

Concrete Medium = 2 grams

Concrete Intense = 3 grams  
Charcoal Light = 10 grams  
Charcoal Medium = 15 grams  
Charcoal Intense = 20 grams

For the following colors: Peach, Dusty Rose, Lemon tea, New Pine, Icy Waters, Olive Tree & Desert Sand the mixing proportion is 5 grams pr. kilogram Conteco B/M/F. It is however, possible to add more pigment to the mixture up to a maximum of 50 grams pr. kilogram, if a darker shade is desired.

### **Mixing Conteco Basic/Medium/Fine:**

Reach: Conteco Basic 600g/m<sup>2</sup>, Conteco Medium/Fine 350g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Following method is the same for Conteco Basic, Conteco Medium and Conteco Fine:

Shake Conteco B/M/F well and add Conteco Color Pigment in the desired amount. Stir the mixture thoroughly with a drill mixer until the powder gains an even color.

Shake Conteco Mix & Primer and pour it into a bucket. Add the mixture of Conteco B/M/F and Color Pigment and stir until it obtains an even texture. We usually recommend 2 parts of powder to 1 part liquid; however, this can be adjusted to preferences. After stirring, the mixture needs to settle for 10 minutes before use.

### **Mixing Conteco Sealer:**

Mix Conteco Sealer and cross-linker according to the instructions on the product. Shake the mixture thoroughly and let it settle for 10 minutes before use. Please note that Conteco Sealer must be applied within 2 hours after cross-linker is added to the product.

### **Conteco on walls:**

1. Before you start, please make sure that the chosen surface is clean and even. If used on clinkers or tiles, we recommend spackling the entire surface before applying Conteco in order to obtain an even concrete look. As Conteco is applied in thin layers, joints and unevenness will show on the finished surface if not evened out before application. Panels and floor must be masked off.
2. If applied on an absorbing surface (e.g. untreated wallpaper), we recommend priming the surface before using Conteco. This can be done by using Conteco Mix & Primer or another similar primer.
3. When the surface is prepared, mix Conteco with Conteco Color Pigment and add Mix & Primer (see under "Mixing Conteco B/M/F").
4. Apply the first layer with a tool of your choice, according to the desired surface (see under "Getting the look right").
5. Before applying the next layer, the surface can be sanded with 120/150 grit sandpaper to obtain a smoother surface. This should be done before the layer is

dried up completely as regular sandpaper cannot be used on hardened Conteco. The drying time is 30-60 minutes per layer at room temperature (21-23 °C, 50% humidity).

6. Before applying the next layer, moisten the surface using a water atomizer. This will ensure optimal adherence.
7. Apply additional layers in the same way as the first layer, until the desired result is obtained. This normally takes around 2-3 layers.
8. When the result is as desired and dried up, treat the surface with Conteco Color Sustainer. Apply the product in a thin layer and massage it onto the surface with a microfiber cloth.
9. *Are you using Conteco in a kitchen or bath?* If so, we recommend finishing the surface with our Conteco Sealer, which makes the surface water resistant and dirt repellent. Mix Conteco Sealer (see under "Mixing Conteco Sealer"), and pour it in a bucket. Apply to the surface using a paint roller. Make sure to apply enough product in order to seal the surface correctly (min. 100ml/m<sup>2</sup> per layer). Avoid dry rolling. When the first layer has dried up (approx. after 45-60 minutes, room temperature, 21-23 °C, 50% humidity) and the milky white finish has disappeared, the second layer can be applied, using the same amount of product. Please note that Conteco Sealer must be applied within 2 hours after cross-linker is added to the product.

#### **Conteco on floors:**

1. Before you start, please make sure that the chosen surface is clean and even. If applying Conteco on wooden floors, we recommend gluing vinyl onto the surface beforehand in order to obtain the classic, even concrete look. If used on clinkers or tiles, we recommend spackling and priming the entire surface before applying Conteco. As Conteco is applied in thin layers, joints and unevenness will show on the finished surface if not evened out before application. Panels must be masked off.
2. When the surface is prepared, mix Conteco with Conteco Color Pigment and add Mix & Primer (see under "Mixing Conteco B/M/F").
3. Apply the first layer by pouring Conteco on the floor in small portions and distributing it in a thin layer – as thinly as possible (approx. 0,5 mm) using a tool of your choice, according to the desired surface (see under "Getting the look right").
4. Before applying the next layer, the surface can be sanded with 120/150 grit sandpaper to obtain a smoother surface. This should be done before the layer is dried up completely as regular sandpaper cannot be used on hardened Conteco. The drying time is 30-60 minutes per layer at room temperature (21-23 °C, 50% humidity).
5. Before applying the next layer, moisten the surface using a water atomizer. This will ensure optimal adherence.
6. Apply additional layers in the same way as the first layer, until the desired result is obtained. This normally takes around 2-3 layers.

7. When the result is as desired and dried up, treat the surface with Conteco Color Sustainer. Apply the product in a thin layer and massage it onto the surface with a microfiber cloth. When dry, apply Conteco Sealer in order to make the surface water resistant and dirt repellent. Mix Conteco Sealer (see under "Mixing Conteco Sealer"), and pour it in a bucket. Apply to the surface using a paint roller. Make sure to apply enough product in order to seal the surface correctly (min. 100ml/m<sup>2</sup> per layer). Avoid dry rolling. When the first layer has dried up (approx. after 45-60 minutes, room temperature, 21-23 °C, 50% humidity) and the milky white finish has disappeared, the second layer can be applied, using the same amount of product. Please note that Conteco Sealer must be applied within 2 hours after cross-linker is added to the product.

### **Conteco on furniture:**

1. Before you start, please make sure that the chosen surface is clean and even. As Conteco is applied in thin layers, joints and unevenness will show on the finished surface if not evened out before application. If used on untreated wood, we recommend spackling out joints and priming the surface before use. Mask off those areas that should not be treated.
2. When the surface is prepared, mix Conteco with Conteco Color Pigment and add Mix & Primer (see under "Mixing Conteco").
3. Apply the first layer - as thinly as possible (approx. 0,5 mm) using a tool of your choice, according to the desired surface (see under "Get the look right").
4. Before applying the next layer, the surface can be sanded with 120/150 grit sandpaper to obtain a smoother surface. This should be done before the layer is dried up completely as regular sandpaper cannot be used on hardened Conteco. The drying time is 30-60 minutes per layer at room temperature (21-23 °C, 50% humidity).
5. Before applying the next layer, moisten the surface using a water atomizer. This will ensure optimal adherence.
6. Apply additional layers in the same way as the first layer, until the desired result is obtained. This normally takes around 2-3 layers.
7. When the result is as desired and dried up, treat the surface with Conteco Color Sustainer. Apply the product in a thin layer and massage it onto the surface with a microfiber cloth. When dry, apply Conteco Sealer in order to make the surface water resistant and dirt repellent. Mix Conteco Sealer (see under "Mixing Conteco Sealer"), and pour it in a bucket. Apply to the surface using a paint roller. Make sure to apply enough product in order to seal the surface correctly (min. 100ml/m<sup>2</sup> per layer). Avoid dry rolling. When the first layer has dried up (approx. after 45-60 minutes, room temperature, 21-23 °C, 50% humidity) and the milky white finish has disappeared, the second layer can be applied, using the same amount of product. Please note that Conteco Sealer must be applied within 2 hours after cross-linker is added to the product.

## **Conteco for wet room waterproofing with Ardex TRICOM:**

In order to use Conteco for renovation and in new bathroom constructions, the room must be waterproofed beforehand. To comply with the rules of ETA Denmark, this has to be done using Ardex 7+8 adhesive and Ardex SK100W deckweb.

1. Before you begin, please make sure that the surface is clean, dry, stable and free of parting agents. Ardex 7+8 adheres to most surfaces. Always read the product instructions from Ardex before start.
2. Mix Ardex 7+8 thoroughly until it reaches a sticky texture. The mixture proportion is equal parts of Ardex 7 and 8. The average use is approx. 1 kg/m<sup>2</sup> on even surfaces, and 1,4 kg/m<sup>2</sup> on uneven surfaces. Mix only as much adhesive as can be used within 60 minutes.
3. Glue on corners, collars and joint tape in a single layer. Use a small paint roller to apply adhesive and a small scraper to set the components. Make sure to cover the components with adhesive and get rid of potential air bubbles.
4. Apply Ardex 7+8 to the remaining areas using a 3mm toothed trowel (for even surfaces) or a 4mm toothed trowel (for uneven surfaces). After this, install the Ardex SK100W deckweb carefully using your fingers. Use a plastering trowel to fix the deckweb and remove potential air bubbles. Be careful around joints and crossings. When installing the deckweb on floor, please press away from the drain, preventing adhesive to fall down the drain.
5. Roll out a thin layer of adhesive in all corners and joints for further protection of the surface. Use a small plastering trowel to even out the surface. When the deckweb is installed, cut the drain free and install it. Please make sure that the deckweb goes all the way down the drain. After approx. 2 hours, sand the adhesive until it has a smooth and even surface.
6. The surface is now ready for Conteco. Follow the steps for Conteco on floors/walls above, depending on where you want Conteco.

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For further information, please see our instruction videos on <https://conteco.dk/instruktionsvideoer/> or feel free to contact us on +45 53 65 08 80 all working days between 08.30-15.30 (Friday until 14.00) or on [info@conteco.dk](mailto:info@conteco.dk).

Good luck with your project! ☺



Conteco structure for floors (not wet room)

Conteco Sealer 2. layer
Conteco Sealer 1. layer
Conteco Color Sustainer
Conteco Medium or Conteco Fine
Conteco Basic
Existing surface



Conteco structure for walls/furniture (not wet room)

Conteco Sealer 2. layer (optional*)
Conteco Sealer 1. layer (optional*)
Conteco Color Sustainer
Conteco Medium or Conteco Fine
Conteco Basic or Conteco Medium
Existing surface

\*Recommended for use in kitchen and bath.



## Conteco structure for walls/floors in bathroom\*

Conteco Sealer 2. layer
Conteco Sealer 1. layer
Conteco Color Sustainer
Conteco Medium or Conteco Fine
Conteco Medium
Conteco Basic
Existing surface

\*When applied on an existing wet room tanked/waterproof surface in the wet area.



Conteco+Ardex structure for wet room proofing

Conteco Sealer 2. layer
Conteco Sealer 1. layer
Conteco Color Sustainer
Conteco Medium or Conteco Fine
Conteco Medium
Conteco Basic
<b>Ardex SK100W Tricom deckweb</b>
<b>Ardex 7+8 adhesive</b>