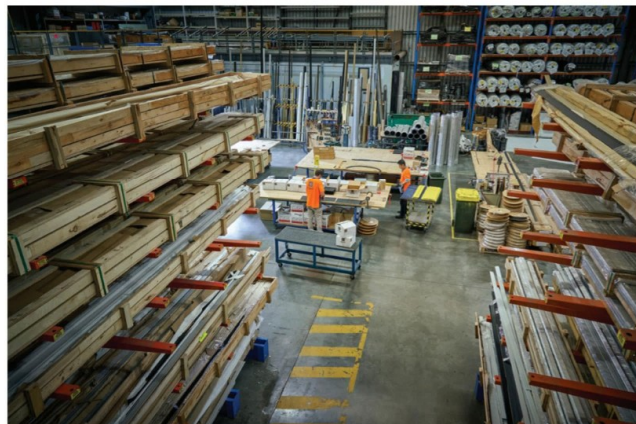
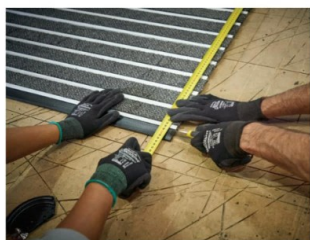




As a shopper, you can support local manufacturing by:

- Looking for and purchasing products with the Australian Made logo
- Actively considering the flow-on effects of your purchasing decisions
- Spreading the word about the importance of buying Australian Made goods



With continual investment in local manufacturing and jobs, Classic Architectural Group is an example of an Aussie owned company proudly supporting the Australian Made logo.

Classic Architectural Group has long been trusted as a 100% Australian-owned business - they are invested in local manufacturing and local jobs, with teams and services operating right across Australia, for over 40 years - and they are committed to upholding this for future generations.

Operating out of Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, they have always believed in setting the industry benchmark and creating employment opportunities to support our local economy. From their cleaners to accountants, and installers to site coordinators, their team shares a collective passion for enhancing public safety and providing end-to-end quality access solutions.

Classic has also been licensed by Australian Made Campaign Limited to use the Australian Made logo on many of their products, including:

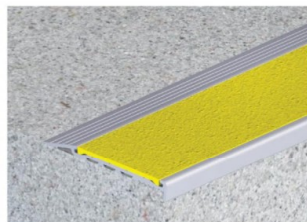
- Classic Tredfx Commercial Entrance Matting
- Classic Integra Safety Stair Nosings
- Classic Integra Tactile Indicators



Let's support Australian Made and create a better future for all Australians

"When you buy Australian, you support Australia."

Beyond Australian Made Week, let's continue to promote domestic manufacturing and celebrate our local makers and growers. The more we support and buy locally the more jobs we'll keep and create jobs for our fellow Australians. Visit the Australian Made website to explore how you can shop Australian Made products or register your own products.



Your convenient one-stop shop. Classic Architectural Group specialises in fulfilling the complete supply chain, from design to installation, across their floor and stair safety offering. This includes commercial entrance matting, safety stair nosings, tactile indicators, car park safety, bike racks and skate deterrents.

www.classic-arch.com

The Five Rs on 3D Floors

Brought to you by Resin Flooring International

Resin floors that use graphical inlays to create a 3D or plain decorative effect have emerged in recent times for one very good reason – they look amazing! Everyone has seen images online of spectacular bathrooms with dolphins appearing to leap out of the floor and it's hard not to be blown away by the overall effect.

While these types of floors can be visually spectacular, they're certainly not for the faint hearted from an installation perspective. To be brutally honest, you need a comprehensive approach like the Five Rs we've covered in previous issues of *Flooring*

Magazine to have any hope of getting a good outcome.

To show just how much work they can be and the critical role the Five Rs play on floors like these, we'll quickly run through a real-life example of a stunning floral floor that was recently completed in a home of Anne Ross, a pre-eminent Melbourne sculptor and artist.

The Right Specification

Part of the reason why these floors can be such a challenge is because in addition to the standard considerations around the resins, you also need to make sure the printed

media can deliver the floor you want.

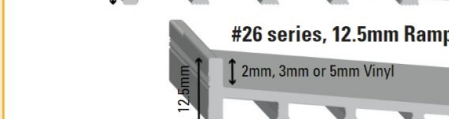
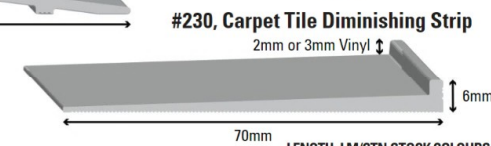
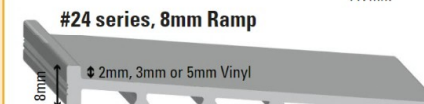
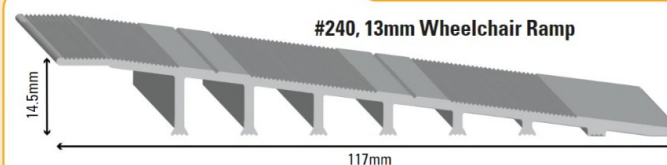
This was no exception for the floor in question as the client had already tried numerous options without getting the result they were hoping for. After those trials and tribulations, they had finally settled on a large format printed paper and had also decided to section up the concrete slab to suit the paper size rather than try to butt each piece together and run the risk of poor edges.

Although this measure simplified the task of positioning the media, it also created some challenges around ensuring the series of slabs were completely flat. → 56



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	LENGTH	LM/CTN	STOCK COLOURS
#230, Carpet Tile Diminishing Strip	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#232, Carpet Tile to Vinyl Ramp	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#240, 13mm Wheelchair Ramp (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#242, 8 x 2.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#244, 8 x 3.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#246, 8 x 5.5mm	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#252, 10 x 2.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#254, 10 x 3.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#256, 10 x 5.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#262, 12.5 x 2.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#264, 12.5 x 3.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver
#266, 12.5 x 5.5mm (C/S)	3.66	36.6	○ Matt Silver



Above: Developing Specification

From a resin point of view, the room was fully surrounded by large windows that made protecting the beautiful artwork from UV degradation a major priority, and the owners were also looking to add a couple of dogs to their family, which would present a major test to the scratch resistance of whatever coatings were used.

The Right Flooring System

With so many extraordinary parameters to consider, finding the right flooring system that could do it all on a project like this was never going to be easy. Unfortunately, the first attempt was not successful so the owner and installer committed to rigorously test every aspect to ensure the proposed system could get the desired result this time around.

This included testing of:

- The subfloor resin to ensure it could effectively seal pinholes and form a perfectly smooth platform after the failed floor had been removed.
- The adhesive resin used to glue down the media, including the techniques for positioning and displacing trapped air.

In the end, Artepox Liquid Crystal Decorative Epoxy Resin from Real World Epoxies was used as the primary resin due to its self-smoothing ability and its successful track record in decorative applications.



Above: Testing Specification

For extra scratch, wear and UV resistance, a final coat of Ezypoly PU from the same manufacturer was also applied. Along with exceptional abrasion resistance, its solventless, odour-free nature and ability to get a high-gloss film in one coat were ideally suited to the project.

The Right Preparation

As alluded to before, the unique configuration of the concrete slab meant that the right preparation was heavily focussed on flattening out the smaller sections in readiness for laying the printed media. Dustless diamond grinding equipment was used for this task and continued until the floor was as level as possible, which would ensure the self-smoothing resins would not run away during the installation process.

Another focus throughout the various preparation phases was the control of dust while sanding the coats. Procedures for minimising generation and cleaning up were critical to understand as a build-up could easily become visible in the finish and ruin the aesthetics of the floor.



Above: Surface Preparation

The Right Installation

The right installation on this, and similar decorative projects, can best be summarised by two indispensable traits: patience and attention to detail.

Patience on these jobs can come in the usual forms, such as steady and controlled use of tools, however it also relates to the timing of application. To make sure the resins behaved as well as they possible could and gave the best possible finish, application was often delayed until conditions were acceptable.

Attention to detail usually relates to application methods, but in this case it also stretched into other measures most installers aren't willing to take.



Boris Pieske and the application team at Level Developments went to those very lengths by using full body suits and establishing a positive pressure environment so that



Above: Application Suits

airborne dust and debris were controlled as much as possible.

Once again, rigorous testing in the form of a full simulation was also completed beforehand to ensure the process was optimal.

The Right Process Management

The right process management on this project was about supporting all the measures that were identified as critical to the success of the decorative floor.

A lot of communication took place between the owner, installer and manufacturer at each stage of the process and climatic details were discussed at each stage to ensure results were predictable. Although a project of this scale is never plain sailing from start to finish, this ongoing dialogue ensured any hurdles were cleared and a wonderful outcome achieved.

After a couple of attempts to do the most difficult resin floor there is, perhaps the biggest endorsement of the Five Rs approach comes in the fact that the client finally got the dream floor they were looking for. By sticking strongly to each of the five elements, they finally have the flooring centrepiece for them and their dogs to enjoy. ▲