SMOOTHSHIELD

(1A29S Aerosol)

User Guide

FIRMFOOT®

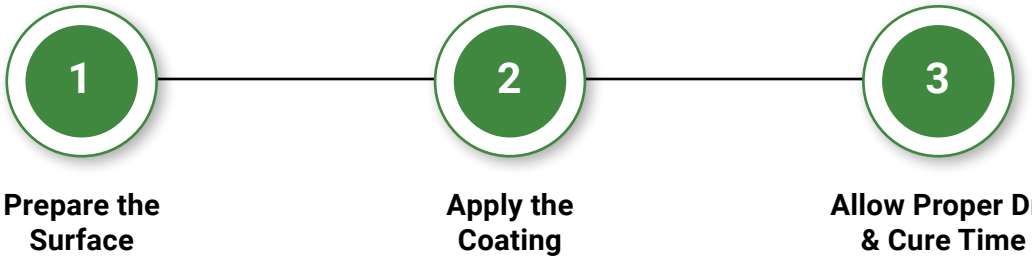


FORREST
Technical Coatings

FIRMfoot® SmoothShield (1A29S Aerosol) is a solvent-borne epoxy ester coating designed to provide a durable, protective satin finish for surfaces exposed to foot traffic, as well as railings and other surfaces requiring protection. Unlike Grit Tough, SmoothShield does not contain grit, resulting in a smooth, uniform coating ideal where protection and appearance are prioritized over traction.

Suitable for properly prepared surfaces including steel, concrete, wood, fiberglass, and aluminum.

3 Basic Steps for Best Results



Following these steps in sequence will help ensure proper adhesion, a smooth, uniform finish, and long-term durability.

1 Surface Preparation (CRITICAL STEP)

Surface prep determines adhesion and long-term durability.



General Requirements

- Surface must be **clean, dry, and free of contaminants**
- Remove all:
  - » Dirt, dust, grease, oil
  - » Rust or failing coatings

Recommended Prep by Substrate

- **Steel (Ferrous Metals):** Clean thoroughly; use primer for corrosion resistance
- **Aluminum / Non-Ferrous:** Acid etch for adhesion
- **Fiberglass:** Light sanding or acetone wipe
- **Concrete:** Clean with TSP and allow to fully dry
- **Wood:** Clean and dry (no primer required)

Best Practices

To ensure optimal adhesion and appearance, follow these additional guidelines.

- Use **clean white rags only**
- Avoid
  - » Mineral spirits / paint thinner
  - » Tack cloths

If prep is done incorrectly:

- Coating may peel, blister, or fail prematurely

2 Application Instructions



Once the surface is properly prepared, you're ready to apply the coating. Proper spray technique is key to achieving a smooth, even finish.

Before You Spray

- Shake can vigorously for 2 full minutes
- Spray in a well-ventilated area
- Ideal conditions:
  - » Temperature: 50°F – 85°F (best performance 65°F – 85°F)
  - » Avoid high humidity when possible

How to Apply

Once the can is properly shaken and conditions are suitable, apply the coating as follows.

- Hold can 12–15 inches from surface
- Apply 2–3 light coats (do NOT apply heavy coat)
- First coat should be a light "mist" coat
- Allow 15–20 minutes between coats

What to Expect (Key Difference vs Grit Tough)

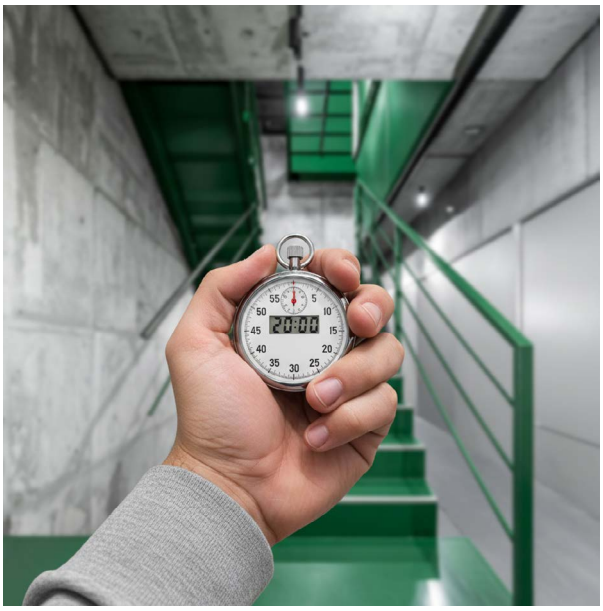
When applying SmoothShield, keep the following performance characteristics in mind.

- Smooth, even film with no texture buildup
- Easier to achieve uniform appearance
- Less forgiving of heavy coats (runs more visible)

3 Dry & Cure Time

After application is complete, allow the coating to properly dry and cure before handling or use. Drying conditions will directly impact the final appearance.

- Dry to touch: ~20–30 minutes
- Dry to handle: ~20 minutes (typical conditions)
- Full cure depends on environment and film thickness



Use the following information for coverage planning, cleanup, and storage

Coverage

- Coverage varies based on film thickness
- Reference: ~529–593 sq ft per gallon @ 1 mil (bulk equivalent)

Clean-Up

- Clean overspray immediately with appropriate solvent

Storage

- Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area
- Keep away from heat and ignition sources
- Shelf life: ~12 months (unopened)

Safety Information

Always follow proper safety precautions when using this product.

- FLAMMABLE – keep away from sparks, heat, and flame
- Use in well-ventilated areas
- Wear appropriate PPE
- Review SDS before use

Troubleshooting

If issues occur during application, refer to the guide below to identify common causes and corrective actions.

Runs or Sags

- Cause: Applying too heavy or spraying too close
- Fix: Apply lighter coats, maintain proper distance

Uneven Finish

- Cause: Inconsistent spray pattern or overlap
- Fix: Use smooth, even passes and consistent distance

Poor Adhesion / Peeling

- Cause: Improper surface prep
- Fix: Clean, sand, and reapply

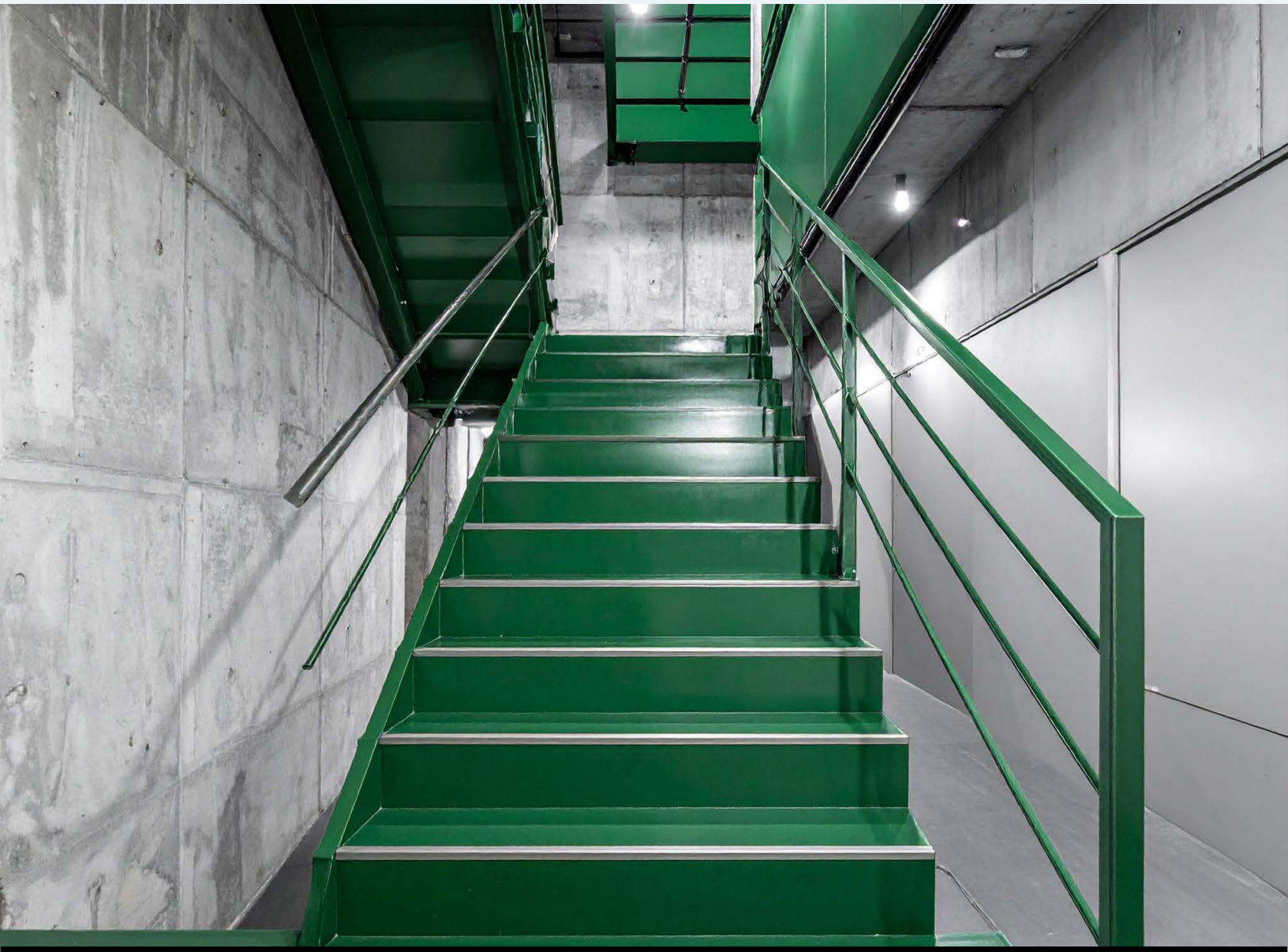
Blotchy or Thin Coverage

- Cause: Insufficient coating thickness
- Fix: Apply additional light coat within recoat window

Pro Tips

For best results and a consistent finish, keep the following tips in mind.

- This is a protective coating, not a traction coating
- Prioritize even film build over speed
- Light coats = better appearance and performance
- Always test spray before starting your project



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