



SafEtch®

PROSOCO SafEtch® is an effective, safe alternative to traditional acidic compounds for cleaning and preparing horizontal or vertical concrete for application of additional coatings, including hardeners/densifiers and clear or pigmented coatings.

On fired clay surfaces, SafEtch® effectively removes common construction and atmospheric staining, including excess grout and mortar modified with latex or other acrylic additives.

SafEtch® rids surfaces of embedded oil, grease, excess mortar, efflorescence and dirt. On cementitious surfaces, SafEtch® dissolves a small amount of the surface while the aggregates remain untouched. That mild “etch” creates greater surface area for more complete penetration and effectiveness of any protective treatment. It’s ideal for projects where traditional acidic cleaners are not allowed.

Non-fuming SafEtch® contains no hydrochloric or other traditional inorganic acids and is safe for use on and around most metal surfaces. Additionally, it is up to 70 percent more effective than citric and glycolic acids, and 50 percent more effective than phosphoric acid.

TYPICAL TECHNICAL DATA

FORM	Clear purple liquid Pleasant odor
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	1.110
pH	<1.0 @ 1:3 dilution
WT/GAL	9.24 lbs
FLASH POINT	>200° F (>93° C)
FREEZE POINT	-22° F (-30° C)
SHELF LIFE	3 years in tightly sealed, unopened container

ADVANTAGES

- Proven effective for removing common construction soiling, including mortar smears.

- Effective on fired clay surfaces using latex-modified grout.
- Replaces traditional mineral and organic acid products.
- Removes efflorescence on decorative paving treatments.
- Low odor and water-rinsable.
- Non-fuming and environmentally responsible.
- Will not harm most cleaning equipment or metal surfaces.
- Safe for interior cleaning.

Limitations

- Not suitable for polished/unpolished marble, limestone or travertine.
- May cause discoloration and corrosion on certain types of metals. ALWAYS TEST.
- May damage exposed low-E glass treatments; acrylic and polycarbonate sheet glazing; and glazing with surface-applied reflective, metallic or other synthetic coatings and films. Modern soft coat or hard coat low-E glass is not intended to be on the external face of the glass and should not be exposed to or adversely affected by proper cleaning. Always test for adverse effects prior to overall application. If testing is not feasible or indicates adverse effects, such substrates must be protected.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

VOC Compliance

PROSOCO SafEtch® is compliant with all national, state and district VOC regulations.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Always read full label and SDS for precautionary instructions before use. Use appropriate safety equipment and job site controls during application and handling.

24-Hour Emergency Information:
INFOTRAC at 800-535-5053

Product Data Sheet

PROSOCO® SafEch®

PREPARATION

Protect people, vehicles, property and all surfaces not set for cleaning from product, splash, wind drift, residue and rinse water.

Remove mortar residues and construction soiling within 7–14 days of tooling the mortar joints.

When possible, finish cleaning before installing windows, doors, light fixtures, hardware, surrounding metal and other items that may be damaged by cleaning. If already in place, protect. Extended contact with the cleaning solution or its vapors may result in discoloration or damage.

All caulking and sealant materials should be in place and thoroughly cured before cleaning.

Surface and Air Temperatures

Best results are obtained when air and masonry surface temperatures are 40° F (4° C) or above. To avoid harm to masonry, do not clean when

temperatures are below freezing or will be overnight. If freezing conditions exist prior to application, let the masonry to thaw.

Equipment

Apply using low-pressure (50 psi max) sprayer, roller or densely filled (tampico) masonry washing brush. Do not atomize. Do not use high pressure spray or pressure spray above 50 psi. This drives the cleaner into the surface, making rinse difficult and may cause staining.

Inadequate rinsing leaves residues which may stain the cleaned surface. Rinse with enough water and pressure to flush spent cleaner and dissolved soiling from the masonry surface and surface pores without damage. This ensures there are no residues left that could interfere with the penetration of additional protective treatments.

Masonry-washing equipment generating 400–1000 psi with a water flow rate of 6–8 gpm is the best water/pressure combination for rinsing porous masonry. Use a 15–45° fan spray tip. Heated water (150–180° F; 65–82° C) may improve cleaning efficiency. Use adjustable equipment for reducing water flow rates and rinsing pressure as needed for sensitive surfaces.

Rinsing pressures above 1000 psi and fan spray tips smaller than 15° may permanently damage sensitive masonry. Water flow rates less than 6 gpm may reduce cleaning productivity and contribute to uneven cleaning results.

Storage and Handling

Store in a cool, dry place with adequate ventilation. Always seal container after dispensing. Do not alter or mix with other chemicals. Published shelf life assumes upright storage of factory-sealed containers in a dry place. Maintain temperature of 45–100° F (7–38° C). Do not double stack pallets. Dispose of unused product and container in accordance with local, state and federal regulations.

APPLICATION

Read “Preparation” and the Safety Data Sheet before use.

ALWAYS TEST a small area of each surface to confirm suitability, coverage rate and desired results before beginning overall application. Test with the same equipment, recommended surface preparation and application procedures planned for general application. Let surface dry thoroughly before inspection.

Recommended for these substrates. Always test. Coverage is in sq.ft./m. per gallon.			
Substrate	Type	Use?	Coverage
Architectural Concrete Block	Burnished*	yes	100–400 sq.ft. 9–37 sq.m.
	Smooth	yes	
	Split-faced	yes	
	Ribbed	yes	
Concrete	Brick	yes	125–500 sq.ft. 12–46 sq.m.
	Tile	yes	
	Precast Panels	yes	
	Pavers	yes	
	Cast-in-place	yes	
Fired Clay♦	Brick	yes	150–500 sq.ft. (14–46 sq.m.)
	Tile	yes	
	Terra Cotta (unglazed)	yes	
	Pavers	yes	
Marble, Travertine, Limestone	Polished	no	N/A
	Unpolished	no	N/A
Granite	Polished	no	N/A
	Unpolished	no	N/A
Sandstone	Unpolished	no	N/A
Slate	Unpolished	no	N/A
*Sure Klean® Light Duty Concrete Cleaner may be more suitable. ♦Sure Klean® 600, 101 Lime Solvent or Vana Trol® may be more suitable. Always test to ensure desired results. Coverage estimates depend on surface texture and porosity.			



Product Data Sheet

PROSOCO® SafEtch®

Dilution & Mixing

SafEtch® may be diluted with up to three parts clean water, depending on the nature and severity of soiling.

Always pour water into empty bucket first, then carefully add concentrate.

Application Instructions

Exterior Surfaces

1. Use clean water to thoroughly prewet surface to be cleaned. On vertical surfaces, work from the bottom to the top. Always apply to surfaces thoroughly pre-wet with fresh water.
2. Apply liberally. Do not atomize.
3. Let the cleaning solution dwell 3–5 minutes.
4. Reapply. Light scrubbing of the surface improves cleaning results especially where high pressure rinsing equipment is not available. Do not let cleaning solution “dry into” the surface. If solution starts to dry, reapply. **NOTE:** Thorough rinsing is extremely important. As much water pressure as possible (without damaging the surface) should be used to ensure that all staining elements are completely removed.
5. Rinse with clean water, covering each section of the surface with a concentrated stream of water. On vertical surfaces, work from the bottom to the top, keeping lower surfaces rinsed clean and free of cleaner residue.

Interior Surfaces

Proper ventilation is necessary. Follow exterior application procedures. If pressure-rinsing is not possible, use a sponge or soft-fibered brush to rinse thoroughly with clean water.

Cleanup

Clean tools and equipment with fresh water.

WARRANTY

The information and recommendations made are based on our own research and the research of others, and are believed to be accurate. However, no guarantee of their accuracy is made because we cannot cover every possible application of our products, nor anticipate every variation encountered in masonry surfaces, job conditions and methods used. The purchasers shall make their own tests to determine the suitability of such products for a particular purpose.

PROSOCO, Inc. warrants this product to be free from defects. **Where permitted by law, PROSOCO makes no other warranties with respect to this product, express or implied, including without limitation the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for particular purpose.** The purchaser shall be responsible to make his own tests to determine the suitability of this product for his particular purpose. PROSOCO's liability shall be limited in all events to supplying sufficient product to re-treat the specific areas to which defective product has been applied. Acceptance and use of this product absolves PROSOCO from any other liability, from whatever source, including liability for incidental, consequential or resultant damages whether due to breach of warranty, negligence or strict liability. This warranty may not be modified or extended by representatives of PROSOCO, its distributors or dealers.

CUSTOMER CARE

Factory personnel are available for product, environment and job-safety assistance with no obligation. Call 800-255-4255 and ask for Customer Care – technical support.

Factory-trained representatives are established in principal cities throughout the continental United States. Call Customer Care at 800-255-4255, or visit our website at prosoco.com, for the name of the PROSOCO representative in your area.