

FLOORING THAT STANDS THE TEST OF TIME: MONDÉCO SEAMLESS TERRAZZO AT TIMES SQUARE CENTER

10+
years old*



► For a decade, the Mondéco floor at Dubai's Times Square Center shopping mall has been providing an artistic, clean and safe surface underneath its visitor's feet.

Installed in 2006, the 1,100m² seamless resin terrazzo finish has been creating a visually appealing and engaging retail environment while simultaneously delivering

the functionality and longevity that the site's operators need to ensure that it maintains a clean, contaminant-free space.

When the mall was being built, the conceptual architects IR Design wanted a floor that would convey the contemporary, high-end style of the Times Square Center without sacrificing practical construction or maintenance criteria.

To achieve this, the Mondéco floor was applied in a bespoke design of flowing lines, interconnecting circles and symmetrical patterns.

A palette of seven creative, complimentary colours was used during the project and light reflective additives were incorporated into the finish to create a stylised, glittering surface. ►►

	Epoxy Terrazzo	Cement Terrazzo	Quarry Tile	Ceramic Tile	Porcelain Tile	Vinyl Tile	Carpet	Vinyl Sheet
Installed Cost	9.10	8.50	5.78	6.48	6.78	1.23	1.98	2.72
Lifespan	40+	40+	40	40	40	15	10	9
Annual Maintenance	0.46	0.53	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.47	1.53	1.39
Replacement Cost	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.60	2.24	3.43
40 Years Initial & Maintenance Cost	27.5	31.70	54.58	55.28	55.58	64.27	62.09	73.56
Annual Cost	0.68	0.73	1.36	1.38	1.38	1.61	1.80	1.84

FIGURE 1: Comparison of Life Cycle Costs for Different Flooring Materials: All figures are shown in USD per square foot. Data provided by the National Terrazzo and Mosaic Association

► The complex motifs and shapes were outlined on the floor using aluminium inlays, into which the resin material was trowelled. The entire floor area was then ground down to achieve a level surface and to make the additives shine.

The seamless, joint free nature of Mondéco makes it easy to keep the finish clean and unblemished, ensuring that each visitor experiences the full “wow” factor of the shopping centre’s decorative floor.

The Times Square Center project exemplifies the ability of resin terrazzo to withstand

conditions within large-scale retail environments, where the floor will be subjected to heavy and continuous foot traffic, frequent cleaning, scuffs, scrapes, scratches and abrasions. Despite ten years of wear, the colours haven’t faded, the aggregates remain bright and the floor’s elaborate pattern looks as fresh as it did in 2006.

The Mondéco finish has provided the shopping center with a variety of long-term financial and operational benefits compared to alternative flooring materials. For example its long lifespan (which can be in excess of 40

years if properly maintained) makes it one of the most durable flooring solutions available. On average seamless resin terrazzo floors also have the lowest annual maintenance cost as well as the lowest overall cost when the initial expenditure is divided into its extensive service life.

Alongside the aesthetic, functional and budgetary advantages, Mondéco floors also enhance a building’s sustainability credentials by utilising recycled content, reducing the amount of material taken to environmentally damaging landfills. ■

*This project was completed in 2006 and the photos have been taken when the floor was 10+ years old.



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