

Q1: What is the difference between the new, Trapezoid shape and the old Circle shape?

A: By utilizing a Trapezoid shape the abrasives are placed away from the center of the pad into the high wear areas. This also eliminates the need to rotate them as they begin to wear.

Q2: When do I use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Strips?

A: When working with stone or concrete floors using a rectangular vibratory machine, use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Strips instead of 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasive Pads, which are optimized for use on vibratory equipment.

Q3: How do I apply the new 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Strips?

A: For applying any of the 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond abrasives please reference the Technical Data Sheet, which contains instructions and pictures on how to apply them.

Q4: What is the difference between the old hexagonal abrasive features and the new square abrasive features?

A: The new features improve longevity and incorporate a new self-break-in feature allowing the pads to start cutting sooner.

Q5: When do I use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasive Pads Gold?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Gold should be used when there is apparent wear or visible damage on the floor. Such damage might be caused by pitting from action of ice-melting agents or other chemicals. Scratches can occur by abrasion from movement of pallets or other heavy items, heavy foot traffic, or any other physical wear of the floor surface.

Q6: How many passes should be made with 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Gold?

A: Depending upon the condition of the floor, 3-8 passes are recommended. When the floor is smooth to the touch and wear marks are removed, or the visual appearance is acceptable, you can switch to 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Red.

Q7: How are 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads different from traditional diamonds used in floor grinding and polish?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads are precisely-patterned, carefully engineered structured composite abrasives. The composite abrasive features are distributed uniformly on a cushioned, flexible backing. As the composite structures wear with use, new diamonds are continuously exposed, resulting in uniform, exceptionally consistent and fast cutting action through the life of the abrasive product. Due to the unique design characteristics of the proprietary 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads, fewer steps are required when compared to traditional floor grinding and polishing abrasives.

Q8: Can I use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads dry?

A: It is not recommended due to the possible generation of excessive heat and dust. Water or a neutral cleaner should always be used with 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads.

Q9: Can I use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads to strip and/or remove floor finish?

A: No. The use of traditional 3M stripping chemicals and 3M floor pad procedures is recommended.

Q10: On what types of surfaces can I use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads?

A: Every floor requires careful consideration of specific material type, floor condition and available equipment. Successful results have been obtained on hard surfaces such as terrazzo, concrete, marble, travertine and limestone. Use on combinations of different types of stone materials (e.g. marble with decorative granite inlay) should be approached with caution. Consultation with flooring supplier of Manufacturer may be necessary.

Q11: What if I start seeing scratches while using 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads?

A: Scratching can occur from damage to the 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads resulting from floor conditions such as tile lippage and exposed edges from expansion joints and seams. If visible scratches appear, examine the 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads for missing abrasive features, creasing, or other physical damage, and rework the floor as necessary. "Crop-marking" or "donut mark" swirls should be avoided by maintaining constant machine movement - don't pause the machine in one spot with the driver pad rotating.

3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasive Pads

Q12: Do I have to use 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads in sequence starting with 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Gold and continuing with 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Red and finishing with Blue?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads should ALWAYS be used in the order: Gold -> Red -> Blue. Follow final polishing by burnishing with Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus and Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector. Depending on the floor condition, use of 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Gold as the first step is optional to quickly remove surface scratches and other damage before going on to the normal Red -> Blue -> Purple sequence.

Q13: Scotch-Brite™ Sienna Diamond Floor Pad Plus and Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus pads produce slight milky slurry during use. Does the slurry from 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads look similar?

A: The slurry produced with 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads looks similar, but the volume is typically much greater. Keeping the slurry on the floor during use of 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads is critical - follow the procedures detailed in the 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Technical Data Bulletin.

Q14: Do 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads require any break-in before use?

A: New 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads have a self break-in feature that will allow the pads to begin cutting in 1-2 passes under normal conditions. No special break-in actions need to be taken.

Q15: How many 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasives do I use on a floor pad?

A: On driver pads 16 inches and larger, use four 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasives. For driver pads 15 inches or smaller, use three 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasives.

Q16: When using 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads, electric floor machines sometimes overload and trip circuit breakers. Why is this?

A: The efficient cutting action of 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads creates high friction in some cases, especially if the floor is not kept adequately wet, and especially when using 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Blue. If this occurs, a few drops of dish washing soap (Dawn® or equivalent) can reduce the surface tension at the disc/floor interface and help the machine to run more smoothly. In extreme cases, lessening the load on the discs can help. First remove any weight on the machine and then try adding one or two additional discs on the driver pad. This distributes the machine weight over more area and reduces the downward force on each disc.

Q17: What "grade" or "grit" are 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads are not specified by a grade designation. The abrasive actions are classified as follows: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Gold - Coarse, 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Red - Medium, 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Blue - Fine. Due to the proprietary design characteristics of 3M™ Trizact™ Abrasives, fewer abrasive steps are required when compared to traditional floor grinding and polishing abrasives. Each of the 3M™ abrasive pads will typically replace several grades of conventional diamond abrasives. For example, generally, 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Gold could be used in place of ANSI 30, 40, 60, 80, 100 grit abrasives.

Q18: How long will 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads last?

A: The new 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasive Pads last twice as long as the previous generation of 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond HX Discs. 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Pad life depends critically on use factors such as flooring type and condition, machine pressure and speed.

Floor Substrate	Old Life > Estimated Life (finished sq ft)
Marble	2,000 sq ft > 4,000 sq ft
Terrazzo	2,000 sq ft > 4,000 sq ft
Concrete	1,000 sq ft > 2,000 sq ft (highly variable)

Q19: How will I know when to replace 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads will continue to cut as long as the abrasive features are visible. The cloth backing may be exposed on parts of the disc as the abrasive wears down (See Photo 1).

Q20: How much pad pressure should the customer use?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Red are normally used at higher machine pressure settings. The efficient cutting action of 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads Blue causes more friction and can overload some machines at higher pressures. If this occurs, lower pressure settings should be selected - lower pressure also helps to extend disc life.

Q21: Will this process work on both cement-based terrazzo and synthetic/epoxy terrazzo?

A: Yes, 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads can be used with all types of terrazzo surfaces.

3M™ Trizact™ Diamond TZ Abrasive Pads

Q22: Will using 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads impact the life (thickness) of the stone flooring?

A: Although 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads abrade the floor surface - removing scratches and other shallow surface damage - the effect on the overall thickness of the floor is not significant.

Q23: What about other types of stone floors like granite, ceramic, porcelain and sandstone?

A: 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads can abrade all hard floor materials, for substrates not listed here please contact your local 3M sales representative or 3M Technical Service to discuss suitability.

Q24: What types of equipment can be used with 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads?

A: Low-speed swing machines and walk-behind or riding auto-scrubbers are suitable. These machines should always be operated at a slow pace across the floor surface. 3M™ Trizact™ Diamond Abrasive TZ Pads should NOT be used on high-speed machines (>350 rpm).