



REPAIRING & PREVENTING CRACKS

Does your client have a viable concrete surface with minor cracking? Transform their cracking surface into a beautiful work of art with Custom Scoreline Effect.

If your client's existing concrete surface is cracking, demolishing the entire thing is not the only option. In fact, a better option is working *with* the cracks by incorporating them into the design of your surface.

SUNDEK's National Accounts President, Don Snider, has worked with many clients to resolve cracked concrete surfaces with the Custom Scoreline Effect technique—a method that not only transforms the surface but also prevents future cracking. Here, he shares the basics of the Custom Scoreline Effect and how it's done.

WHAT IS THE CUSTOM SCORELINE EFFECT?

With the Custom Scoreline Effect, contractors use the existing cracks as a starting point and incorporate those into a new pattern. This is achieved by strategically scoring the surface by hand. SUNDEK authorized installers specialize in creating scoring patterns that make it nearly impossible to tell the difference between the original cracks and the handmade scorelines.

WHY INCORPORATE CRACKS INTO YOUR DESIGN?

Even when a concrete slab is poured correctly, at least a little bit of cracking is inevitable over time. Working with cracks rather than against them reduces the likelihood that cracking will continue. Why? In simple terms, it's inevitable for concrete to crack because cracks occur in places where concrete expands and contracts due to heating and cooling. Rather than fight the cracking, the Custom Scoreline Effect allows the existing crack

A reputable contractor will never encourage you to save a surface that's not viable or may present a danger to those



to remain, making it less likely for new cracks to form in the slab when heating and cooling occurs. Handmade scorelines make the cracking look like part of an intentional design.

WHAT SIZE SHOULD THE EXISTING CRACKS BE?

The best way to determine if your client's surface is right for custom scorelines to be incorporated with existing cracks is to have a contractor come look at your surface. An experienced contractor who does this type of work will be able to tell you if your client's existing surface has cracks that are too large to incorporate into the design. Some cracks are too large to salvage and may create tripping hazards. In that case, it may be necessary to have the entire concrete surface removed.

At this commercial property, Big Red Decorative Concrete combined Custom Scoreline Effect with Classic Texture in Kahlua to create an eye-catching pool deck that's also comfortable on the feet.



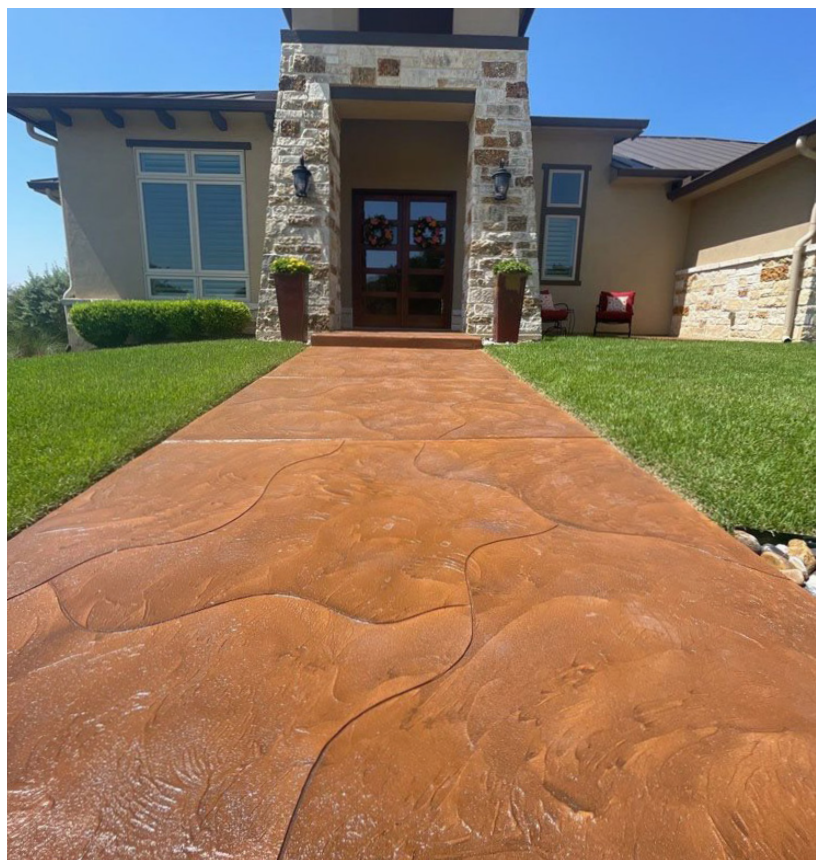
WHAT SURFACES ARE CANDIDATES FOR THIS TECHNIQUE?

The Custom Scoreline Effect can be used on any concrete slab where cracks have formed, as long as the surface is still viable and not severely cracked or damaged in another way.

We have used this technique on many surfaces including:

- Balconies
- Basements
- Driveways
- Patios
- Pool decks
- Porches
- Walkways

Custom scorelines combined with a Tuscan application adds aesthetic appeal and resistance to future cracking for this residential walkway by SUNDEK of San Antonio.



AN OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

Here's what to expect when you hire a contractor to do the Custom Scoreline Effect technique on your concrete surface.

- **Open existing cracks.** Using a grinder wheel, a contractor will open the existing cracks so they can receive the same treatment as the handmade scorelines. If you skip this step, you risk the existing cracks expanding later, which will mess up the design.
- **Create new scorelines.** Using a grinder wheel, a contractor will then create additional scorelines. By incorporating the new with the old in a specific pattern, the result is a design that essentially "hides" the cracks.

- **Protect cracks and scorelines.** The contractor will fill all cracks with urethane sealant—both the ones that happened naturally and the ones that were handmade. Sealing the cracks prevents water and debris from getting inside and assists in blending the old and new "cracks" together.
- **Apply finish coat.** Your contractor will coat your entire surface in the color of your client's choice. This step adds a protective element and also brings cohesion to the project.

DO CRACKS HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO GET THIS LOOK?

No, the existing surface does not have to be cracked. Your contractor can create custom scorelines to create any pattern. Your contractor can help you determine whether custom scorelines or concrete stamping would be best for your particular project.

Using the Custom Scoreline Effect, SUNDEK of Illinois created an attractive pattern for this walkway that leads from driveway to front door at this residence.



FURTHER CUSTOMIZATION

In addition to using custom scorelines to hide unsightly cracks, your customer can also change the color of their surface with concrete staining or the texture of their surface with coatings.

See additional customization options in our [Solutions by Design](#) brochure.

FIND A LOCAL SUNDEK INSTALLATION CONTRACTOR

SUNDEK has project managers and over 60 installation contractors nationwide to serve you.

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On this patio surface, Decorative Concrete Resurfacing of St. Louis, MO, used the Custom Scoreline Effect in tandem with Classic Texture to create an intentional design.

