

# CONCRETE SHOPPING QUESTIONS CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to help you get all your questions answered when shopping for concrete.

✓ Question	Reason for Asking / Key Points
<input type="checkbox"/> What are the pros/cons vs. other flooring?	If you are unsure that concrete is for you this will help you decide.
<input type="checkbox"/> What different types of concrete do you carry and how do they differ?	You should be shown the following to get an idea of the brands or types you like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of concrete</li> <li>• Brands</li> <li>• Price Ranges</li> <li>• Overlays</li> <li>• Shapes and Sizes</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> What would you personally recommend for my situation?	Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The look you are trying to achieve</li> <li>• Home décor and furnishings</li> <li>• Climate extremes and traffic level</li> <li>• Any pets, kids or disabilities you have</li> <li>• The type of room (including stairs)</li> <li>• Type of subfloor (wood, concrete)</li> <li>• Need for sound insulation</li> <li>• Lighting</li> </ul>
<b>Once You Have an Idea of What Product You are Leaning Toward...</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> What different looks can I create with concrete?	<p><b>Polished:</b> Smooth, gleaming surface</p> <p><b>Sealed:</b> Clear or colored; Has protection against damage</p> <p><b>Scored:</b> Shallowly cut with circular saws to create designs</p> <p><b>Stamped:</b> Stamped with a pattern to look like stone, brick, tile, etc.</p> <p><b>Stained:</b> Produce the appearance of stone, wood, etc. or to add color</p> <p><b>Dyed:</b> Mixed at the installation site to achieve bright, rich shades</p> <p><b>Integral Color:</b> Colorant is mixed with concrete during processing</p> <p><b>Paint:</b> Concrete can easily be painted with solid colors or patterns</p> <p><b>Colored Hardeners:</b> Sprinkle on powder which creates intense hues.</p> <p><b>Colored Release Agents:</b> Pigments that gives color hardeners an antiqued or mottled appearance</p> <p><b>Concrete Flooring Aggregates:</b> Mixing in gravel, stone, sand etc.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> How will the floor be sealed?	Urethane sealers are pricey and abrasion-resistant. Acrylic sealers provide softer surfaces and require more maintenance. They have UV protection and are easy to re-apply as needed.
<input type="checkbox"/> What is the average life expectancy?	If properly cared for concrete can often last a lifetime.
<input type="checkbox"/> Is this preferred for a DIY installation?	Ask for DIY instructions. These can also be found on FindAnyFloor.com.
<input type="checkbox"/> What does the Manufacturer's Warranty cover and how long does it last?	Look for a warranty accompanied by a large US company backing the product. If you find a cheap warranty from a private labeled product without a big US presence, be cautious. Read the fine print!
<input type="checkbox"/> What can you tell me about the manufacturer and your experience with their products?	How long and how much have you sold? Do you have customer testimonials? Large or small/private label? Number of years in business? Do they provide support?
<b>Other Factors to Consider ...</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Is the product in stock or does it have to be ordered? Is there a minimum order?	Rare products may take longer to ship. Ask your salesperson to check stock with the distributor.
<input type="checkbox"/> What is your return policy?	Find out penalties, fees and stipulations for returning. Can you return extra concrete?
<input type="checkbox"/> What is the lead time before I can have this completely installed?	Consider factors such as ordering the product, waiting for arrival and installation.
<input type="checkbox"/> What other accessories or products might I need and do you carry them?	Examples: Grout, aggregate, coloring agent, trims and moldings, tools for installation, rugs or mats
<input type="checkbox"/> Can you provide care instructions?	Follow all the manufacturer's instructions to ensure your warranty is not voided.
<input type="checkbox"/> Do you sell cleaning kits and repair kits?	Look for products recommended by the manufacturer.
<input type="checkbox"/> What financing options are available?	Consider financing if you decide on a product that is more than your budget.
<input type="checkbox"/> Do you deliver?	If so, curbside or stacked in the installation area? Is there a fee? How many days do I have to schedule in advance? Do I need to move furniture? Are there any other preparations that I need to take?
<input type="checkbox"/> If not, do you have a list of licensed installers you recommend?	If not, use FindAnyFloor.com's "Find it Locally" Search Tool.