Care and Maintenance Guidelines

Miracote MPC Finish — Decorative Fountain Applications

This document provides recommended **care, cleaning, and water chemistry control procedures** to help maintain the long-term appearance and performance of a Miracote MPC cementitious finish installed in fountain environments.

1. General Service Expectations

Miracote MPC is a **polymer-modified cementitious coating** designed to provide a dense, durable, decorative finish. Like all cement-based finishes in continuous water service, long-term performance is dependent on:

- Proper water chemistry balance
- Routine cleaning and inspection
- Prevention of scale, staining, and biological growth
- Avoidance of aggressive chemical exposure

Failure to maintain proper conditions can result in discoloration, surface roughening, mineral deposits, or premature wear.

2. Fountain Start-Up Procedures

After installation and cure:

- Allow coating to cure in accordance with Miracote published requirements prior to filling.
- Perform an initial rinse and debris removal before placing the fountain into service.
- Fill fountain using **clean potable water** where possible.
- Begin circulation and filtration immediately after filling.

During the first 30 days of service and thereafter:

- Maintain **stable, balanced water chemistry**
- Avoid shock chemical treatments unless required for sanitation control

3. Routine Cleaning Procedures

Weekly / As Needed

- Remove leaves, debris, and organic material from fountain basin.
- Brush surfaces using a **soft nylon pool brush** to prevent buildup of biofilm or mineral haze.
- Maintain proper filtration system operation.

Monthly

- Inspect finish for areas of scale, staining, or algae formation.
- Clean surfaces with a **mild neutral-pH cleaner** diluted per manufacturer instructions.
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

Removal of Mineral Deposits

If calcium scale or hard water film develops:

1. Lower water level to expose affected area.
2. Apply a **diluted, non-muriatic scale remover** suitable for cementitious finishes.
3. Lightly agitate with a soft brush.
4. Rinse thoroughly and restore balanced water chemistry.

Do not use:

- Wire brushes
- Abrasive pads
- High-pressure washing at close range
- Strong acid washing without professional guidance

These methods can damage the cementitious matrix.

4. Biological Growth Control

- Maintain continuous water circulation.
- Use approved fountain algaecide products compatible with cement finishes.
- Avoid copper-based products where staining risk exists.
- Periodically brush shaded or low-flow areas.

5. Water Chemistry Balance Guidelines

Proper water chemistry is critical to prevent:

- Surface etching
- Calcium scaling
- Color variation
- Efflorescence
- Coating degradation

Recommended Operating Ranges

Parameter	Target Range
pH	7.2 – 7.6
Total Alkalinity	80 – 120 ppm
Calcium Hardness	150 – 300 ppm
Water Temperature	As designed for fountain operation
Free Sanitizer (if used)	Maintain per local code requirements

Avoid sustained pH levels below 7.0 or above 8.0.

Saturation Balance

Water should be maintained near **neutral saturation index conditions** to reduce risk of:

- Aggressive (etching) water
- Scale-forming conditions

Consult a water treatment professional for LSI (Langelier Saturation Index) management where required.

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6. Seasonal or Extended Shutdown

If fountain is taken out of service:

- Drain system completely.
- Clean and rinse all surfaces.
- Allow coating to dry prior to covering.
- Prevent standing water accumulation during shutdown periods.

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7. Inspection and Preventive Maintenance

At least annually:

- Inspect sealant joints and penetrations.
- Verify coating remains well bonded and intact.
- Address minor wear areas early to prevent larger repairs.
- Document water chemistry records.

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8. Important Limitations

Miracote MPC is a **cement-based architectural finish**, not a chemical-resistant lining.
It is not intended to withstand:

- Constant exposure to aggressive acids
- Industrial chemical dosing
- Severe freeze-thaw cycling without proper design provisions

Proper maintenance is essential to achieving expected service life.

Important Note:

Miracote MPC is a **cement-based decorative finish**.
Performance and appearance depend heavily on **proper maintenance and controlled water chemistry.**

For technical assistance or maintenance questions:
Miracote Technical Services
www.miracote.com | Technical Support Line