



STUNNINGLY UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE PRODUCT GUIDE

SET IN STEEL

ABOUT

Established in 2015, Set In Steel's journey had its humble beginnings as a weekend hobby for founder Jared Evans. Jared caught the local council's attention because of his passion for building and crafting by hand, landing his first commercial project. This led to multiple projects that marked the beginning of something bigger, quickly evolving into a full-time commitment to Set In Steel.

Specialising in bespoke architectural concrete furniture design and manufacturing, Set in Steel now serves the entire Illawarra region, Sydney and surrounds. We also freight Australia wide.

Recognised as the industry leader, Set In Steel is now a family owned and operated business. The Set In Steel team comprises of skilled workers from a variety of different backgrounds in the building & construction industry, each bringing with them a wealth of experience & knowledge, and their own passion for creativity and collaboration.

With an engineering background, Jared embraces challenges and loves using his hands to build and create. His wife Margueritte brings creativity to the table with a background in marketing, and a longtime love for fashion and design. This makes them a dynamic and complementary duo.

Together, they share a true passion for architectural concrete and its endless possibilities. They take pleasure in combining artistry with craftsmanship, embracing the inherent qualities of concrete, including its flaws and imperfections, to design exquisitely distinct, handcrafted, tailor-made concrete statement pieces that embody both luxury and practicality.

For Jared and Margueritte, Set In Steel isn't just a business; it's a shared passion and dream; "Being able to collaborate with our clients throughout the entire process, working together and sharing in their excitement in seeing their visions and concepts brought to life is something we both really love."

Our team of concrete artisans create and design a variety of concrete products, ranging from polished concrete kitchen islands and benchtops, outdoor kitchen BBQ areas, custom tables and seating, fire hearths, vanity tops, basins, baths, and concrete stairs to perfection.

Our sister company, SLABS by design boasts a carefully curated range of our most loved furniture items. "The Collection" provides our clients with the option to shop online. We have been fabricating for SLABS by design for the last 5 years and have recently acquired this business which we are really excited about.

This document will walk you through our process at Set In Steel, providing you with an insight as to how your project will progress, from the vision & design stage to the creation of your dream piece.

Jared Evans +

the Set In Steel team









YOURS

The character of concrete in undeniable. It is a simphonic harmony of form and function.

By it's very nature, your bespoke slab is hard wearing, and long lasting. Concrete is durable and practical, ages gracefully, distinctively and will weather, developing a patina over time.

As part of our hand-crafted process, your surface has been polished and sealed to the highest possible standard.

We use the highest performing sealers on the market, safe and upon curing, is heat resistant to 149°C (300°F). This high-performance, two-part concrete sealer is a low-sheen and food safe sealer specifically designed for the application of sealing concrete benchtops and furniture.

To ensure a satisfying aesthetic experience, we've put together this guide to provide as much information as possible to assist you in the decision to invest in the creation of your own unique handmade concrete statement pieces for your future enjoyment.

Is now the time to take the next step in bringing your ideas to reality? Your bespoke concrete piece will be the embodiment of, and infused with, all that is to be celebrated about concrete, with its prolonged natural beauty and raw organic feel, to last for a lifetime of use.

OUR VISION: "TO SHOW PASSION THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF CONCRETE"



START HERE

ET'S

Our step-by-step process:

- We will provide a quote based on the plans and details provided, including measurements and plans.
- Clarification of the quote and inclusions are completed
- Client approves the quotation via email
- An initial invoice is issued for a payment of 50% of the quoted price to allow the project to be included in the schedule
- Site measure, if needed, will be booked in once joinery or substrates are installed. If no site measure is required, we will add the project immediately to the "ready to proceed" works
- · Colours and finishes will be finalised
- Final plans will be confirmed, as well as any amendments to the quote
- Once all approvals are obtained, fabrication will commence and will take approximately 2-4 weeks depending on the scope of works and what is currently underway in the workshop
- Once the project has been poured, we will issue the final invoice, with payment required prior to delivery as per our terms of trade and goods in transit insurance policy
- Installation date will be confirmed once the final payment is made



CONSIDERATIONS

Whilst we make every attempt to work in with your building requirements, there may be times that we are not able to attend to your site measure at your desired time, even when your initial payment has been made some time prior.

This may be a result of the following issues:

WORK IN PROCESS -

If your site becomes ready for site check at a time when we are currently working on large projects that take up much of our resources, you may need to wait a short period of time to allow us to commence yours. We will do our best to accommodate all projects in a timely manner and will endeavour to keep you up to date, advising of any delays as they become apparent.

CHANGE IN PLANS -

There will be times when plans change at site measure due to unexpected situations, or unforeseen challenges such as site access issues or limitations, as well as the potentiality of a change of mind by the client in relation to the basic design, shape, finish or colour of the piece/s. Situations arising such as these may result in a delay in the progress of your project, particularly if we need to determine other methods to remedy the issue of site access, source materials, or require further discussions in relation to the completed order.

INCREASE IN SIZE OF PROJECT

There will be times that at the point of site measure, the scope of works required for the project will change, including an increase in the overall size of the project. This may see the project split into stages, with the completion of the new pieces added possibly delayed. There may be times when we cannot complete all of the extra pieces at the same time of the original project, due to prior commitments made towards other projects. We will advise you of options available if an additional installation date is required. Any changes in scope of works discussed and determined at/upon completion of site check will be requoted with approval sought and required to be received in writing prior to commencement of fabrication works. This may cause some delays in completing your project.

MATERIAL DELAYS

From time to time, we may experience delays in sourcing certain materials. Should this occur, the time required to complete projects may be delayed. We will do our best to have stock on hand and will provide details should any delays occur as a result of this at the time of your project.







CLOSURES

Delays may occur at certain times of the year due to holiday closures. Set In Steel will generally have a 3 week business closure over the end of year holiday period. Any works not commenced by mid to end of November may not be able to be completed prior to the end of year closure. We will do our best to keep our clients updated of any delays due to closures as they occur.

DELAY WITH JOINERY INSTALLATIONS

Delays may occur to your project if your expected site measure is delayed due to your builder or joinery installations. We will do our best to accommodate your project, however, we ask that you please provide as much notice as possible should any delays occur on your end. Communication is key to ensure any unnecessary delays are avoided.

UNAVOIDABLE DELAYS

Many factors can impact on the smooth flow in the progression of some of the projects we work on. We will always do our best to work as closely with you as possible to ensure a positive outcome. Unfortunately, there will be times when expectations cannot be met when dealing with situations that are out of our control. We will do our best to keep you informed of the progress of your project.

UNDERWAY

Once your site measure has been completed and all approvals have been received, the fabrication process can commence.

The following stages are core and need to be completed in their listed order as part of the fabrication of your project. Allowance must be made for the curing of the concrete and drying of sealers prior to delivery. We will keep you informed as much as possible during the process and will provide photos of the progression of your piece(s) throughout the process.

- Site check is completed. Colours and finishes have been selected and final plans are provided for approval - consideration needs to be allowed for specialty products such as aggregate and custom mouldings which may need to be ordered prior to commencement of your project.
 We will advise you of any potential lead times upfront at the quoting stage.
- In most cases we will fabricate the moulds for your custom pieces to be poured. This may take a number of days depending on the size and degree of difficulty of your project.
- Once the moulds have been completed, your project will proceed to the pouring stage of the process. Where possible, we will endeavour to pour the entirety of pieces that come under your project on the same day, however this again depends on the size of your projects and may in fact take a number of days to complete.
- Once poured, your project is placed under blankets to maintain a regular temperature allowing sufficient time for the curing process to complete, which may take 36-48 hours.
- Once the pieces have cured, we will remove the blankets and de-mould each individual piece. A quality check will be conducted to ensure we are satisfied with the quality of the pour, and that the pieces can proceed onto the next stage. The first sand and acid wash is then completed. The project is then left to dry for at least 48 hours.
- An initial sealant primer coat is applied and once dry, the pieces are then grouted to fill in some of the surface holes – the desired texture and finish specified will determine how much grout will need to be applied. The pieces are then left for a further 24-36 hours to ensure the grout has cured and set. Please note that there will be some small pin holes in the finished pieces which is a beautiful characteristic of concrete. A more organic look can be customised if you prefer.
- We will then wet polish your pieces once again after which the pieces are moved into the sealing stage of the process.
- It is at this stage that the final sealing and quality checks are completed. This step may take a number of days depending on the size of the project. We need to allow sufficient time for the sealant to dry, cure and adhere, prior to delivery or freight.
- Pieces to be freighted will then require crating and will be booked in for delivery.
- Delivery and installation will generally be completed on the same day, depending on the size of the project and location.
- Where required, installation can be completed over a two day period.



We offer a range of finishes including the following:



ECC TROWEL FINISH

This is a hand trowelled finish which creates variation with lighter and darker shades of your selected colour throughout the piece. The end result is stunning texture and movement contributing to the uniqueness of your custom concrete piece. This finish is excellent for high use areas such as kitchens and BBQ benchtops.



HAND PRESSED

Our hand pressed finish can be offered for table bases and side tables, as well as plinths. Air pockets and crevices are created as we hand pack the concrete mix against the side of the moulds to achieve this unique finish. The desired level of texture can be achieved by using a slightly wetter or dryer mix.



AGGREGATE

This finish is similar to the well-known "Terrazzo" finish which is achieved by adding the specific size and colours of aggregate stones into the concrete mix when pouring. We can offer the option of a minimalist aggregate feature where we carefully place small scatters of aggregate (as sparsely or concentrated as you decide); you will have made note where on the pieces you would like these placed at the approval stage.

The pieces are then wet polished exposing the aggregate stones in the surface, creating a distinct aesthetic and durable surface. The amount of aggregate that is exposed can be adjusted by only lightly polishing (for a more delicate and subtle look). For a more striking look we will polish the pieces accordingly, to expose a higher ratio of the stone. This is suitable for most projects with some limitations if there are difficult shapes to polish around.



GFRC OFF THE FORM

This is a more even coloured finish with minimal flow marks and some pinholes. This finish is excellent for seating or difficult shapes such as curves and vanity tops, tables, and basins, as this process does not require the pieces to be hand-trowelled.



REGULAR CONCRETE

We rarely use a regular concrete mix, however there are times that it is necessary if the project requires it. In the situation whereby the piece will be exposed to direct heat contact such as is the case with timber fireplaces, regular concrete may be a more viable option.

RS

We offer a standard set of 22 colours to select from, however, we are also able to offer a custom colour service where we manually create a colour specifically for you.

A lighter or darker variation of one of our custom colours can also be achieved by adjusting the oxide levels accordingly. By supplying us with a tile or colour swatch we can work to create as close a colour match as possible.

CONCRETE COLOUR CHART





SHAPES

Unique one-off shapes, curvatures and technical designs that push the envelope are our specialty.

Due to the architectural nature of the product that we use, we are able to create a wide range of technically difficult shapes and designs to fit in with our client's needs. These can include cantilevers, curves, and more obscure angular shapes, as well as large benches that other manufactured stone products have restrictions on, due to slab size limits.

We will assess your design at the quoting stage of the process and advise if there are any issues with the structural viability of the design, working with you and your architect, designer, or builder to ensure we can meet the project brief and achieve the desired end result, aesthetically, whilst ensuring it is structurally viable.









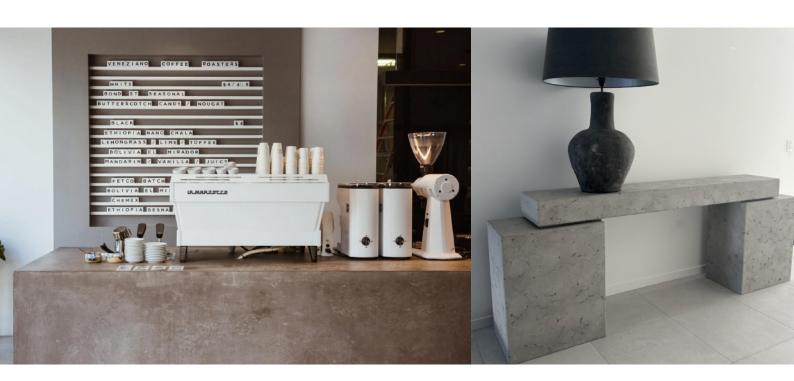
TEXTURE MOULDINGS

Due to the custom nature of our products, we are able to work with our clients to achieve unique specialty finishes and textures for their individual designs. This is achieved through various means including the use of different types of rubber and textural mouldings.

These textured moulds can be added as an inner component of the custom fabricated melamine moulds prior to pouring. An industrial distressed textural finish can also be achieved, with alternative methods incorporated into the polishing and processing stages.

This added customisation is all part of the artisanal concrete edge that we offer at Set In Steel, as we continually seek to explore ways we can push the envelope with what can be achieved. The end result? A true celebration of the beautiful characteristics that architectural concrete has to offer. Handcrafted pieces of functional concrete art, each unique, not only due to the handmade element of our processes involved in the project's creation, but also as a result of colours and textures that we can achieve.

Specifically engineered for the application of architectural countertops and furniture, each carefully crafted piece is a bold statement, becoming the centrepiece of your home or commercial space, setting your project apart from the rest. We thrive on the creative collaborative process and invite you to please contact us to discuss your ideas so that we can turn your vision into CONCRETE reality.



CRAFTED IN AUSTRALIA

HAND

The team at Set in Steel and I are passionate about our clients, and we look forward to working with you in understanding your vision in the creative design stage of the process, the fabrication of your one-off original piece of concrete art made by hand from beginning to end, at our own workshop situated just outside of Sydney, to the delivery and installation of your handcrafted piece. Should you choose Set In Steel to be the artisans behind bringing your dream piece to life, we will embrace the opportunity with passion, and bring to life your very own piece of concrete luxe.

Maintain it, enjoy it, love it for what it is...

Concrete, hand formed, poured, processed, and finished honestly and earnestly. No two pieces are ever the same. We take pride in knowing you will cherish your practical, exclusive piece, as you use and care for it over time.



MADE WITH LOVE. TOUGH? YES. INDESTRUCTIBLE? NO.

We like to think of our slabs as low-maintenance, practical pieces, however, as with anything that has been lovingly handcrafted, perfection is not flawless. Embodied in the passion of the artisans who have worked hard behind the scenes in its creation, your bespoke piece will be the epitome of all of the wonderous characteristics concrete has to offer. Each piece is a summation of hours of application of technical skill and is essentially an expression of our passion directed by your vision, through the medium of concrete. We want you to enjoy this investment you have made for years to come; and this will require some love and care. We have done the hard work in the rigorous testing of our products, ensuring you can care and maintain your piece with ease and minimal effort. We ask that you review the caring for your concrete guidelines below, so you know how to properly maintain your beautiful new concrete creation— and of course, what to do when accidents happen!

TENDER LOVING CARE / THE BASICS

Our tips & techniques for the continuing care and cleaning of your surfaces:

DAILY

For everyday, routine cleaning, we recommend wiping surfaces with a soft clean cloth and warm water. Use a PH neutral cleaner or windex if preferred, but avoid harsh chemical cleaners, abrasive cloths and forceful scrubbing. Wipe up spills as soon as possible, to avoid any potentional staining.

LIQUID SPILLS

Don't panic! Our premium sealant is the highest performing sealer available on the market, is food grade safe, and upon curing, acts as a barrier against spills. Use a non-acidic and non-abrasive cleanser and rinse well with water. Avoid vigorous scrubbing in the same area as this will affect the performance of the sealant.

TAKE A LITTLE EXTRA CARE WITH ACIDIC SUBSTANCES & OILS

One of the most harmful elements to concrete can be acids and oils. We recommend the removal of spills quickly from the surface, whether it be lemon juice, vinegar, beetroot juice, wine or other liquids - and remember to always use a clean cloth when wiping away oil splashes that can occur in areas after cooking or food preparation. Failure to do so may result in the spills etching into the sealant, resulting in permanent or stubborn stains which can be difficult and almost impossible to remove.

FOOD PREPARATION

We always recommend cutting on an appropriate cutting board and never directly on the concrete. This will ensure you avoid blunting kitchen knives and even worse, damaging the surface of your slab.

REMEMBER, prevention is better than the cure!



MAINTENANCE (cont.)

CARE &

HEAT RESISTANCE

While the sealer is resistant to heat, excessive direct heat with very hot items such as hot plates and saucepans could potentially cause damage to your concrete surface. We STRONGLY recommend the use of a hot mat, or trivet, for cookware and serving dishes.

THE ELEMENTS

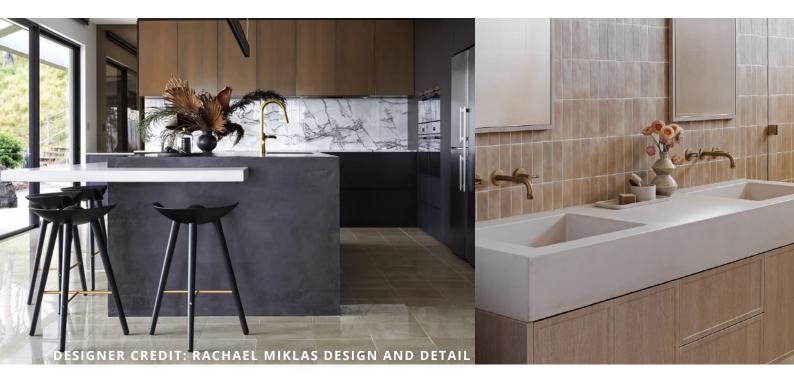
Our sealant is UV stable, rendering it suitable for use on outdoor concrete benches and furniture. We recommend using shade protection if available. We DO NOT recommend leaving items such as vases, candles, or plant pots sitting for extended periods of time on the concrete (this is to ensure water pooling and any markings/staining are avoided). This also applies to debris such as leaves due to the tannins than can leach and dirt after heavy rain and wind – as these can cause staining if left for prolonged periods. Outdoor furniture covers will help protect further from the element and offers a perfect solution to the elements when your item is not in use.

TAKE IT SLOW

Concrete is not immune to small chips and breakages particularly on exposed edges and can occur if impacted with hard objects. All items with hard surfaces should be handled and placed carefully, and to provide protection we recommend you avoid excessively weighty objects and centrepieces being placed or dragged across your slab. And as tempting as it may be, please note that giving in to the urge to dance on your new piece will be at your own risk!

ACCESSORIES ARE EVERYTHING

Consider a table runner, some coasters or soft placements to keep the pieces even more protected. Soft "feet" on the underside of heavy or sharp objects will help in avoiding damage to the surfaces.



AND REFURBISHING

A well-loved slab will develop a natural patina over time. This is part of the beauty of concrete. For severely worn pieces, the surface can be rejuvenated by sanding and applying a new coat of sealant. Concrete is a natural product, and it behaves like one: as such the re-sealing process can change the appearance of the surface and new variations and pinholes can appear.

Expect the wear of your product to contribute to the uniqueness and character, a part of the allure of concrete that adds to the overall aesthetic.

Hairline cracks, mottling and slight irregularities may occur with time. These are not considered a defect and are purely part of the nature of a material such as concrete.

For restoration on serious chips or cracks, grouting mixes and solutions are available.

Please contact us about options for ongoing maintenance and repairs. If this become an option you are considering, we ask that you please email us some photos and we will happily provide you with the options available to you based on your situation.

WE THOUGHT TWICE, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO

Our concrete basins, baths and vanities always receive an additional coat of sealant, giving them the additional protection required for items such as these.

Here are a few more points to consider which will help ensure the preservation of your piece and provide you with peace of mind:

BE KIND

Use warm water and a soft cloth to clean the basin, bath or vanity. Mild household cleaner or liquid soaps can help, but please take care to avoid abrasives, chlorines/bleach, or ammoniums. Clean up any spillages that may stain. Items generally found in most bathrooms to give extra attention to include oil-based foundations, facial and body skincare products, nail polish and nail polish remover.

STAY DRY

Best practice is to not leave concrete basins filled with water for prolonged periods of time. We recommend that you unplug and dry where possible. Rinse away toothpaste and mouthwash. Clean away any pooling water, particularly at the base of the basin, to minimise any possible discolouration over time.

YOUR HANDS ARE LOVELY

Try to avoid leaving essential oil/acidic based hand washes and soaps on your concrete vanities and benchtops, as these acids and oils will eventually break down the sealant and will be absorbed into the concrete. Our mixes are specifically engineered and are denser than regular concrete, significantly reducing the porousness of the concrete, and our sealers act as a water repellent. Mistreating the concrete surface however, with elements that can result in the sealer being compromised, could result in damage to your lovingly made concrete. Embrace the softer side.



TESTIMONIALS

"We did a full renovation this year and I can't speak highly enough of the team from Set in Steel. Jared and Margueritte and the gang worked tirelessly to bring my pieces to life. An enormous concrete cantilevered island bench (The builder told me it couldn't be done but these guys nailed it...and without a single problem), plus vanities in all the bathrooms and a stunning hearth for my fire place. As well as a bar and more kitchen bench tops.

Thank you Set in Steel, we are beyond grateful. If you are thinking about bespoke concrete in your home... you can't go wrong with Set in Steel!"

- Rosemary Scognamiglio

"The best part of our house renovation was sending off an email to Set In Steel... and the relationship and results that followed. MJ and Jared are a couple who think outside the square and go above and beyond to make their clients happy. It's really good knowing you're supporting a couple who have worked bloody hard from the ground up - they really do deserve every success that comes their way. We are delighted with the results of their work, it really does make us smile every day"

- Kathryn Eccles



"Earlier this year I found a photo in a magazine of a sink which was made by Set in Steel. I knew I had to contact them to create something beautiful for our upcoming ensuite renovation. Everyone involved with the process was easy to talk to and extremely knowledgeable and we couldn't be happier with the end result.

Thank you Set in Steel for giving our bathroom that little touch of something extra special."

- Leanne Kelly

"It's rare indeed to meet a team who's so completely invested in your project. And in the end, the result reflected their care and interest. It's rare for expectations to be exceeded, but the result was far better than we expected.

Jared and MJ took an interest in our project from the start. They were collaborative and did their utmost to understand the vision, adding their creativity and experience as we went.

I'd work with Set in Steel again, without hesitation.

We used Set in Steel for: Bathroom vanities, kitchen, laundry, and cupboard."

- Robb Simpson



Products carry a one (1) year manufacturing and structural warranty from the date of purchase.

We reserve the right to make the decision on whether a repair or replacement will be required. We are not responsible for labour or installation, the removal and/or disposal charges for existing benchtops, splashbacks or furniture or any other expense associated with a defective product.

Our sole responsibility is for the replacement, exchange or repair of a defective product.

Exclusions:

- 1. Use of benchtops for commercial purposes
- 2. Scratches or stains
- 3. Chemical damage
- 4. Damage from edge chipping, surface damage caused by wear and tear, cracking or discolouration due to the product being subjected to high heat or damage from mishandling or misuse, cracking around voids and cut-outs, exposure to ultraviolet light and damage from improper care and maintenance including, but not limited to, damage caused by cleaning with abrasive substances.
- 5. Any damage that has resulted from attempts to modify the concrete surface.
- 6. Any failures to benchtops or cabinetry due to the inadequate support or un-level cabinetry for the installation.
- 7. Any hairline cracking around cut-outs, or along edges during or after installation. Our concrete is reinforced so if micro-cracks occur it will still be structurally viable unlike other stone surfaces.
- 8. Any slight irregularities in colour tone and/or texture/finish.
- 9. Any damage caused by excessive pressure eg. sitting, or standing on or applying force that would be considered outside normal use.
- 10. Applies only to installations that are permanently installed in residences and that have not been moved from the original installations.
- 11. Products that have not been paid in full.
- 12. This warranty is not transferrable during the warranty period to any subsequent owner of the residence in which the surface product was originally installed.

Any claim under the warranty will not be recognised or accepted and the warranty does not apply if:

- 1. The claim is not supported by proof of purchase within one year prior to the date of the claim
- 2. The product alleged to be defective is not made available for inspection and testing by Set in Steel or its authorised representatives or consultants.



artisan

ar·ti·san chiefly British,

definition:

- 1. a worker who practices a trade or handicraft: CRAFTSPERSON a skilled artisan
- 2. a person or company that produces something (such as cheese or wine) in limited quantities often using traditional methods

The etymology of "artisan" is derived from the word "art".

Sculpting and shaping concrete by hand or using specialised tools to create unique artistic pieces.

Artisans practice a craft and may, through experience and aptitude, reach the expressive levels of an artist.



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