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What is glow in the dark sand?

Well there a number of different types of glow sand available on the market – some that perform and others that do not. Most are using some variation of Strontium Aluminate pigment combined with other proprietary substances that increase overall glow intensity and duration. Ambient Glow Technology has developed a proprietary type of non-toxic, high performance glow sand which is available in 3 different glow colors: Sky Blue, Aqua Blue, and Safety Yellow. It's available in two different mesh sizes: Fine (100-150 mesh) and Course (20-40 mesh).

Glow sand is typically available 'uncoated'. What 'uncoated' means is that it is unprotected and will disassociate or breakdown when mixed with water and cease to perform. This obviously poses a problem for any concrete, cement, stucco or plaster application where water is utilized. In order to circumvent this problem, each grain of Ambient Glow Fine glow sand has been treated with a proprietary coating that makes it waterproof and thereby 'concrete-friendly'. Ambient Glow glow in the dark sand can also be used in solvent or water-based epoxies and sealers.

How is glow sand be applied?

Glow sand can be applied in a variety of ways from hand-broadcasting over a fresh/wet surface to mixed integrally in a batch.

Let's look at the hand-broadcasting technique first. Hand-broadcasting or seeding Ambient Glow glow sand is a technique whereby the user sprinkles/broadcasts the glow sand over a setting surface. The best way to dispense Ambient Glow glow sand is by using a Powdered Sugar Dispenser or Restaurant-Style Salt Shaker. This application technique works extremely well when Ambient Glow Sand is being applied in surface sealers and epoxies. Basically, while the first coat of sealer or epoxy is still wet, Ambient Glow glow sand is broadcasted on. Then, once dry, a second protective coating of sealer/epoxy is applied. This is the preferred approach for use on dark substrates. The reason being, dark colored concrete for instance acts like a Black Hole with light – effectively reducing the glow sand's ability to perform. By applying the glow over top of the dark substrate, the glow sand has more surface area to glow. We found that in these cases, the Course Ambient Glow worked better than the Fine Ambient Glow Sand.

Another application method is mixing Ambient Glow right into the material mix. In GFRC (Glass Fiber Reinforced Concrete) and stucco applications where a compressed air hopper gun is used to apply a Face or Mist Coat, Ambient Glow Fine or Course glow sand is mixed right into the batch. When sprayed over the surface evenly, the glow sand creates a beautiful, uniformly glowing surface.

Both the above methods arrive at similar 'glowing' results, it's up to the artisan to determine which one they want to try first!

To see more Glow in the dark sand projects, please visit www.ambientglowtechnology.com

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The author writes about a [glow sand](#) and types of its application. a [Glow in the dark concrete](#) makes your room lit with magically glowing light at night.

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