



EVAN SHANKS' "SHANKSHACK"

Project Spotlight



Globally Proven Construction Solutions

ShankShack Garage Floor Gets a Custom Glow Up

The Situation

After graduating from college, Evan Shanks knew that his true calling reached far beyond a nine-to-five desk job. In 2012, he took a leap of faith and started his career as an automotive YouTuber with a goal to be a positive influence while showing the ups and downs of building and modifying cars. Fast forward to today, Evan is widely known by his nearly one million fans across his social media platforms as a self-made mechanic, car enthusiast, YouTube influencer and owner of an athleisure company named Five Three Supply.

After his first seven years of building his brand and follower base, Evan's platform reached an ultimate high and he wanted to continue the momentum and take the next step. He quickly realized the lack of space he had in his current house to work on cars was a major problem, resulting in him being complacent to new opportunities and business ventures. A lightbulb clicked inside his head: he would find a house with land he could build his dream car shop on.

After moving into a new house in Texas and months of methodically planning out and designing what his new car shop would look like, which would be named the 'ShankShack,' construction began. Not only would he build cars in this shop, he would install a welding station, hydraulic press, engine building station and learn to fabricate his own cars.

For his ShankShack, Evan wanted something more durable and customizable than epoxy flooring. He turned to LATICRETE after realizing what the performance of the company's SPARTACOTE® Resinous and Decorative Flooring System could offer him. Not only could LATICRETE provide premier products for the ShankShack, they were also aligned with Evan's vision of creating a one-of-a-kind garage floor that would be seen as a showpiece. LATICRETE reached out to Matt Johnson with Business Flooring Specialists to do the job because of Matt's knowledge and experience with the SPARTACOTE line.

The Challenge

Durable and Enduring Floors: With the intense wear-and-tear this shop would go through, Evan needed a reliable company to install 3,200 square-feet [297 square meters] of flooring that was not only unique and top-of-the-line, but also has superior performing products that could handle the abuse his work would entail.

Smoothing out the Original Concrete: Once the team evaluated the job site, they noticed that the concrete was not completely flat and had some cracks. The team would need to ensure the floor was completely leveled and mitigate the possibility that problems would arise later down the road.

Custom Glow Flake Design: Since Evan and the team wanted this floor to be more of a showstopping piece-of-art unlike anything else seen in the garage floor sector, they decided on a custom glow flake design. Typically in other jobs that include applying custom flakes, contractors would broadcast them into a base coat, which usually results in losing flakes. LATICRETE and Business Flooring Specialists would need to instead broadcast the custom glow flakes into a thick clear coat which would add more depth and give the finished project a unique appearance.

A LATICRETE Solution

SPARTACOTE Resinous and Decorative Flooring System was chosen because it's a seamless, safe, highly-durable and easy-to-clean solution that succeeds with the most demanding flooring challenges. With tailored systems for industries ranging from health care to manufacturing and everything in-between, SPARTACOTE helps reduce downtime through innovative, quick return to service products proven through years of successful installations. A variety of available textures, finishes and colors allows customization to match any decor, enabling the LATICRETE and Business Flooring Specialist teams to put together a glow-in-the-dark custom chip blend exclusively for the new ShankShack.



The floor was shot blasted for prep before any of the cracks were filled. Once that was complete, the team first fixed cracks and spalls with SPARTACOTE® FAST FIX™, a two part, hybrid urethane crack repair material prior to evening out the floor with a hand grinder. Once the floors were leveled and smooth for the main SPARTACOTE application, a white coat of LATICRETE® VAPOR BAN™ ER was applied, which is a fast-curing moisture mitigation primer, designed to save installers time and money.

After VAPOR BAN ER was applied and sanded down, the design was laid out and each color was applied to SPARTACOTE FLEX XPL. Matt's team applied a clear top coat of SPARTACOTE FLEX XPL to prep the floors for the chip design which would go under each lift and different areas throughout while also incorporating a custom blend of red, white and black flakes. The glow-in-the-dark SPARTACOTE Custom Chip blends were then applied in their designated areas around the garage, and were outlined by a thick metallic black line to illuminate the design further. Once the custom chips were scraped down, Matt's team finished up by pouring a SPARTACOTE FLEX XPL clear topcoat with SPARTACOTE GRIP Traction Additive.

SPARTACOTE FLEX XPL is a high solids, low-VOC and minimal odor polyaspartic coating for both decorative and protective applications. It provides a clear top coat sealer that is UV-resistant, preventing discoloration from occurring. SPARTACOTE FLEX XPL with SPARTACOTE GRIP Traction Additive provides optimal impact, abrasion and chemical resistance characteristics, making it convenient for high traffic applications. The polyaspartic coating also allowed for enhanced traction and durability compared to an epoxy, which is what Evan was keen on wanting earlier on in the project.

Outcome

Once the four-day project was complete in August 2020, Evan was able to move into the ShankShack and get back to his true passion — without lack of space holding him back. Since moving into his custom dream car shop, he has recorded over 60 YouTube videos and has reached nearly one million of his fans to date utilizing this space and creating content he's passionate about.

“Since the beginning, these guys have been so enthusiastic and so involved, they were the ones who were talking about wanting to do something cool and special for the ShankShack,” said Evan.



“I could not envision being more excited about a floor, from the custom designs to the finishing details and custom chip set.”

– Evan Shanks, YouTube Car Influencer



Evan (@evanshanks) and Victoria (@victoriashanks_)Shanks



LATICRETE International, Inc. ■ One LATICRETE Park North, Bethany, CT 06524-3423 USA ■ 1.800.243.4788 ■ +1.203.393.0010 ■ www.laticrete.com

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