

## SANDING, VACUUMING AND PRIMING YOUR NEW SCREED

### Do it yourself or let us help

Now that your new screed is dry, it's time to sand, vacuum and prime it ready for the installation of your chosen floor finish. Remember, your floor only needs to be prepared in this way if you are having a bonded floor like tiles or vinyl which require an adhesive or smoothing compound.

Preparing your new screed floor is easy and cost effective to do yourself, but if you're pressed for time, or prefer the reassurance of a professional tradesman, call Screed It. We can complete this process for you for around £3.50 per square meter.

If you would like to do it yourself, read on. This guide will show you how to do it, when to do it and which tools and materials to use.



**0800 756 1394**

Contact us for your FREE Quote

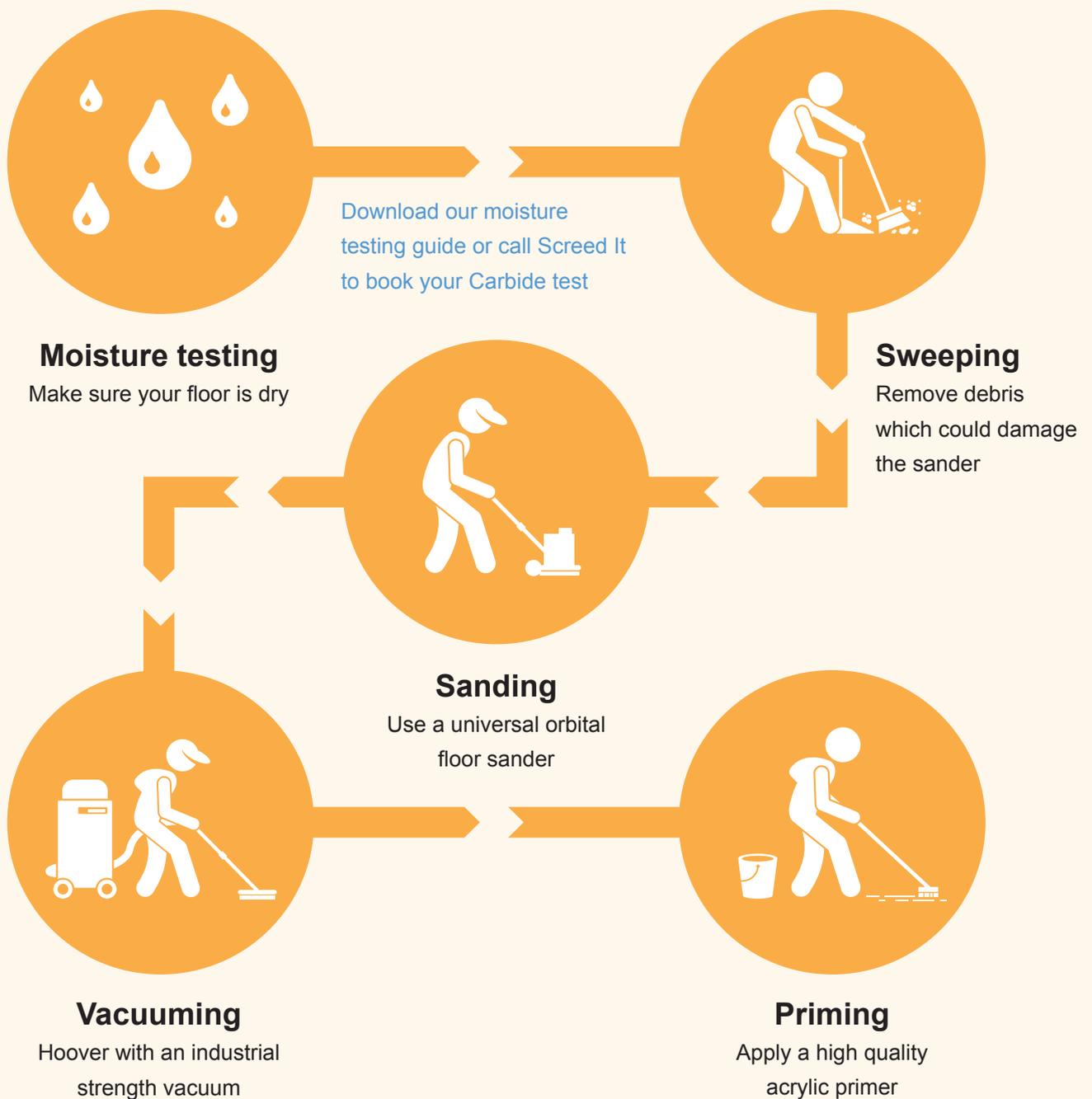
[www.screedit.co.uk](http://www.screedit.co.uk)

## SANDING, VACUUMING AND PRIMING YOUR NEW SCREED

### Your sanding, vacuuming and priming timeline

Depending on the size of your room, you may need to consider induced joints. Download our guide here:

<http://www.screedit.co.uk/downloads>



## YOUR QUESTIONS, ANSWERED



### Why do I need to sand and prime my floor?

The chemical compounds in screed react when they come into contact with tile or vinyl adhesives, which means your new floor finish won't adhere to the screed. Primer bleeds into screed, protecting and sealing the surface, creating a top coat which tile adhesives and vinyl smoothing compounds will stick to.

In other words, not priming your floor could result in cracked, damaged or loose flooring.



### Can I skip the sanding and just prime?

No. Sanding the floor serves two main purposes. It removes any debris or light surface contamination which may prevent the floor being perfectly flat for the tile adhesive or smoothing compounds to adhere to.



### When should I sand and prime the floor?

Manufacturers suggest that you can sand the floor seven to ten days after your screed was poured, providing the surface is dry.

If your screed has been poured as part of a longer schedule of refurbishment works, it may be better to wait until other tradesmen have finished working on, or walking over the new screed before sanding and priming it, to ensure that any debris or surface damage caused by the refurbishment is properly removed.



### Where do I get the equipment from?

You can hire everything you need from your local tool hire shop, with a universal orbital floor sander and an industrial vacuum costing around £100 per day – a fraction of the cost you'd spend paying a tradesman to do this floor preparation work for you.

## HOW TO SAND, VACUUM AND PRIME YOUR NEW FLOOR

### Sanding

To sand your floor, you will need to hire a universal orbital floor sander with 30-60 grit sandpaper. Your local hire shop will be happy to help you select the right equipment for sanding a new screed floor.

There's a sanding video for guidance on our YouTube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOEW1ITnCFkvuaej-eqP2Q>, but your equipment will come with easy to follow instructions.



### Vacuumping

Don't be tempted to use your normal Hoover for removing sanding dust – it simply won't be strong enough and you run the risk of breaking it.

If this dust is not removed properly, it will affect the adhesion of your primer and your chosen floor covering. An industrial vacuum will have the power required to suck up the mess left by the sander. Check out our video here to see the difference.

### Priming

Priming your newly sanded, dust-free floor is easy, but there is one common pitfall – cheap primers.

The market is awash with 'cheap and cheerful' primers which take longer to apply, longer to dry and are less effective at sealing the floor.

We recommend Uzin PE 360 Penetrating Primer, which is a quick and simple one coat system which contains a fine polymer structure for better surface bleed. A general rule of thumb for primers, is that you should look to spend upwards of £25 per 5kg bottle.

Primers can be rolled or brushed on just like paint, but be sure to start in the furthest corner of the room and work backwards towards the door.



### Have you installed your expansion joints?

Go to: <http://www.screedit.co.uk/Services/Post-install/Induced-Joints-and-Crack-Repairs> to learn how.

### Thinking of tiling your new floor?

Visit our downloads page for our guides here: <http://www.screedit.co.uk/downloads> which includes a best practice checklist for your tiler.