# Drying a Gyvlon Screed

Following installation, Gyvlon screeds should be provided with adequate protection from rapid drying or draughts for the first 48-72 hours. Thereafter the building should be kept warm and as well ventilated as possible to encourage the screeds drying process.

Four factors should be considered with drying,

**Room temperature**
Elevating the room temperature will assist the screed to dry through improved evaporation

**Relative humidity**
It is important to provide good ventilation (dehumidification) to ensure a low RH is achieved as a high RH can slow the drying performance of the screed.

**Screed temperature**
UFH can be commissioned at 7 days, this raises the vapour pressure greatly improving the drying characteristics of the screed. This should be combined with ventilation (dehumidification)

**Moisture ingress**
Gyvlon should be protected from moisture ingress to prevent rehydration which will delay the drying process

## SCREED DRYING TIME

Under good drying conditions (a warm, well ventilated room) Gyvlon Screed dries at a rate of 1mm/day up to a thickness of 40mm and then at a rate of ½ mm/day for thicknesses above this up to 70mm, the rate may further increase to ¼ mm/day at >70mm:

**Example:** The example is for guidance only and will be site condition dependent.
75mm Gyvlon Screed Drying time: (40mm*1 day) + (30mm*2days) +(5mm*4days) = 10 Days (120 Days

It is important therefore to ensure the screed performance is optimised through correctly specifying the depth of screed installed, following advice from the screed installer /Gyvlon Technical.

Drying times can be reduced by the provision of good ventilation (dehumidifiers), removal of laitance as recommended and by force drying of the screed using underfloor heating.

## ASSISTED DRYING

**Dehumidifiers:**
Dehumidifiers can be used as early as 72 hours after the installation of Gyvlon screed to assist with drying. It is important that a closed system is employed to ensure that any moisture extracted from the environment during operation is removed. Any water collected should be removed regularly, any screed will only dry as fast as the environmental conditions allow.

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## FORCE DRYING

- Force drying of a Gyvlon screed can begin as early as 7 days following installation of the screed by various methods.
- Commissioning (heating & cooling procedure) of under floor heating systems.
    - Commissioned at ambient floor temperatures, approx. 20 degrees (or lowest manifold temperature).
    - This temperature should be maintained for 24 hours then raised by up to 5 degrees per 24 hours thereafter until the optimum maximum commissioning temperature is reached (Maximum 45-50 degrees).
    - This should then be maintained for 7 days prior to the temperature being reduced by 5 degrees per day back to the starting point.
    - The system should be turned off and allowed to cool for 48 hours prior to moisture testing by digital hygrometer

- Space Heaters & Dehumidifiers in combination.
  Fossil fuel fired heaters (E.g. Gas heaters) must be avoided as they will raise humidity and may impede drying.

  **IMPORTANT**
  After drying the screed, the residual moisture content must be determined using either digital/hair hygrometer, carbide bomb, or an oven drying test.

  **NB:** Drying of screeds can be greatly influenced by individual site conditions.

**ANHYDRITEC**
Tel. 01925 428780
E. sales@anhydritec.com
221, Europa Boulevard,
Warrington WA5 7TN



ANHYDRITEC
Minersa Group