Aggregate and colour reference

A colour in terrazzo is a recipe, not a swatch. terrazzo.com.cn

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Why a colour is a recipe

In terrazzo the colour comes from the aggregate, not from a pigment in the matrix. "White terrazzo" is not a colour, it is a description of which chips are in it and how much. That is why a colour name on an order is ambiguous and a recipe is not, and it is why a screen colour is not a colour-match — the chip distribution decides the read and no photograph reproduces it.

Colour	Matrix	Aggregate	Reads as	Note
White with marble chip	Cement	Marble	Bright, low contrast	The classic. Favourites yellow slightly.
Grey with quartz chip	Cement	Quartz	Cool, dense	Harder than marble chip and takes a higher polish.
Black with glass chip	Cement or resin	Recycled glass	High contrast	Colour comes from the glass, not the binder.
Mixed aggregate	Cement	Two or more	Warm, irregular	The cheapest route to a colour no single chip gives.
Green with mixed aggregate	Cement	Marble, glass	Cool, deep	Green carried by the chip, so it does not fade like a tinted matrix.
Charcoal	Cement	Dark marble and basalt	Deep, uniform	Shows wear more visibly than a pale floor.
Deep colour	Resin	Fine mixed	Saturated	Colour in the binder, which a cement matrix cannot reach.

These are the mixes this site illustrates. Availability depends on the aggregate lot, and we will confirm the recipe against stock before quoting rather than promising a colour from a photograph.

Ordering a colour

1. Name the matrix: cement or resin. This decides absorption, repair and wet slip behaviour, and it is the decision with the most consequences.
2. Name the aggregate. Marble, quartz, glass, shell or a mix. Chip size and ratio are stated with it.
3. Name the finish. Honed, matt or polished. A polished finish on a wet area needs a slip rating asked for in writing.
4. Ask for a sample of the batch. A sample from the lot is worth more than any photograph, including ours.