

# Final Finishing



## EDGERS

- Use to produce a clean slab edge that is less likely to chip
- An edger is less likely to dig into concrete or leave a bumpy surface if a trowel is used in a vertical sawing motion to dislodge aggregate particles away from the edge forms
- Run back and forth with the leading edge slightly raised
- Don't start in a corner and don't raise the edger off the concrete unless the tool is in motion
- Use a wide edger for the first pass, then a narrow edger for the second pass

## GROOVERS

- Use to control crack location by cutting joints to a depth of at least one-fourth the slab thickness
- Push the groover into the concrete, then move it forward while applying pressure to the back of the tool
- After joint is cut, turn the groover around, running it back over the cut to give a smoother finish
- For a straight cut, use a chalk line or straightedge as a guide

## FLOATS

- Use to remove imperfections and to bring mortar to the surface for troweling
- Hold float flat and at arm's length, moving it in a wide semicircular motion until surface is smooth
- Use magnesium tools for air-entrained concrete
- More than one float pass may be required

## TROWELS

- Use to produce a hard, dense surface
- Trowel only after floating, starting with a wide trowel then moving to smaller trowels on later passes
- Hold trowel at a slight tilt at arm's length and move it in a semicircular motion, overlapping each pass by one-half until surface is smooth

