

LOCAL BUSINESS

Invest in New Garage Concrete Coating with Your Tax Refund



By Jamie Killin

With tax season behind us and refunds being distributed to many, it's a great time to reinvest in your home by making aesthetic and practical upgrades — especially in the spaces of your home used the most, like the garage.

Coating the concrete of your garage with epoxy enhances the look of your garage, while also making it easier to clean. Coating also protects the concrete underneath with a two-part epoxy base coat, vinyl chips, two-part clear sealer topcoat and finally, a two-part clear topcoat.

Plus, Floor Defense makes it easier than ever, with a short one-day process, making the process fast and convenient.

"What really sets us apart from a lot of the other companies is we have a one-day installation process," said vice president of business development for Floor Defense Tim McKibbin. "The homeowner's not out of their garage for essentially more than 24 hours."

Floor Defense also takes pride in the top quality of the work, which comes with a lifetime adhesion warranty. Several colors of concrete coating are available, and they ensure every customer is happy with the results.

"I want complete satisfaction," said Tim. "I don't take down payments. I want somebody to tell me that they are happy with the job before I even get paid. I hope that instills confidence in them."

The process, which begins with grinding the concrete to make it more porous, is critical in creating lasting results.

"It's all preparation," said Tim. "Getting the concrete to accept the material, that's what gives it longevity. We have machines that diamond grind the concrete, and that opens up the pores of the concrete so the epoxy can wick into those pores. That's what creates the proper adhesion so it doesn't come back up."

It's a process that delivers permanent results but requires professional tools and experience that can't be replicated by do-it-yourself kits.

"What sets us apart from the kits at say, The Home Depot or Lowe's Home Improvement, is the way the concrete is prepared," Tim explained. "If the surface is not prepared properly, you're not going to get the adhesion that you're going to expect. A lot of the kits provide things so that you can acid wash the concrete, but it just doesn't do the same thing the grinding does."

Sure to be available for the homeowner to answer any questions, Tim takes customer service and satisfaction seriously.

"I think it's that personal touch and being available," he said. "If they have any questions, I'm there to answer questions. I'm available for them during every aspect of the job." ■

For more information on Floor Defense, visit www.floordefenseaz.com, or contact Tim McKibbin at (480) 326-5533.

LOCAL BUSINESS

PREPARE FOR YOUR INTERVIEW and Impress Your Future Boss

Submitted by Happy Pets Palace

With the minimum wage in Arizona being \$10.50 an hour, it is tough for inexperienced applicants to enter the job market.

Whether you are applying for your first job or trying to advance to a new position, here are some helpful suggestions:

Dress the part. Notice the company's dress code and try to mimic its style when you step through the doors. See how employees are dressed on the company's website and on their social media profiles. Look and act like you would be an easy addition to the team they already have in place.

Make good eye contact. This shows the person you are talking to that you are paying attention and interested. It also shows respect, while displaying good listening skills, confidence and honesty. If meeting new people makes you nervous, consciously practice making eye contact with people at places you frequently go, such as restaurants, stores, schools and sporting events. Direct eye contact and a smile are appropriate when applying for a job or working toward advancement.

Use an appropriate handshake. Adjust your handshake for everyone you meet because not everyone has the same hand strength. Elderly people and children will appreciate a less firm handshake, but not too wimpy. It is best to mimic the strength of the handshake being experienced. Practice so you can get feedback to help you learn what amount of pressure would be appropriate.

Take your time filling out the job application. Complete the job application neatly and put effort into filling it out. If an employer can't read your application because of sloppy handwriting, he probably will pass on hiring you because of your carelessness. Employers are looking for workers who care, pay attention to details and can following instructions. The job application is a first impression moment, so be mindful of clarity and accuracy.

Be punctual. Being dependable and punctual show a potential employer how reliable you will be as an employee. It is best to allow extra travel time and arrive five minutes early for your interview. Rule of thumb: "If you're on time, you're late. If you're five minutes early, you're on time." Employers love knowing they can depend on their team. Your patterns of being dependable and punctual, as well as your overall attitude, will play a part in your opportunities for future advancements.

Make a good impression on interview day. While you're waiting that five minutes

before your scheduled interview, look around the lobby, engage with the office staff, have good eye contact, smile and seem interested in where you want to work. Do not spend that five minutes withdrawn or on your phone. The staff members probably will have input from the boss about all the applicants. So, be sure to show your interest. Remember to thank them for their time before you leave.

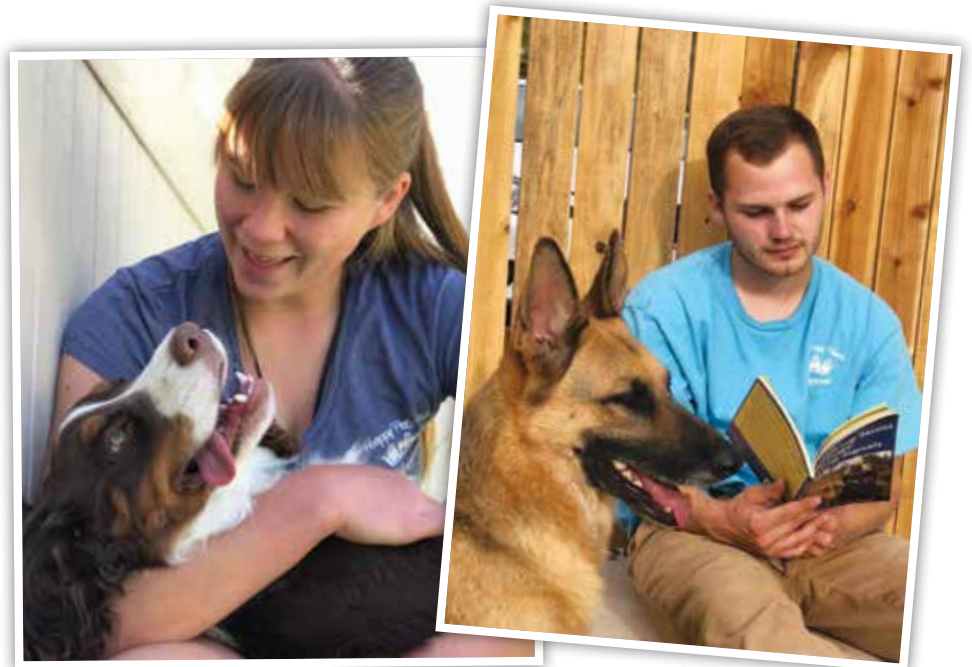
Value continuous self-improvement. Think of your hobbies and passions that might be applicable to the job and express how they may benefit the company. Stay current with industry news, trends or movements so you can offer more than the next applicant who wants the same job.

If you're seeking upward mobility in the company, look for opportunities that challenge you and help you bring value to the business, as well as support your personal goals.

When you work hard to get a job you find interesting, chances are you will feel more satisfied with how you are spending your time. When you enjoy where you work, it leads to a more fulfilled life. Your efforts and preparations are key to your own success. When you are motivated to get that job and you put forth the effort, it will be apparent. When you land that perfect job because of your efforts, things in life may get a little easier. The road to your success is in your hands.

If your passion happens to be working with dogs in a doggy daycare environment, and being around some really fabulous dogs, consider joining our team. We are opening two new locations in the East Valley this year. Study up on your dog breeds to pass our dog breed quiz, and we will give you an application. We offer a great work environment and have a pretty fun time. ■

Happy Pets Palace is located at 1918 E. McKellips Road, on the northwest corner of McKellips and Gilbert roads. For more information about this award-winning dog boarding and doggy daycare facility, visit the website at HappyPetsPalace.com, or call (480) 207-1852.



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