

OTTAWA EPOXY FLOORS

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# Epoxy Materials & Products

Comparing 100% solids, water-based, and solvent-based epoxy products, urethane topcoats, primers, and system components for Ottawa conditions.

6 Expert Answers from Epoxy IQ

[ottawaepoxyfloors.com/construction-brain](https://ottawaepoxyfloors.com/construction-brain)

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## Can Ottawa contractors get next-day delivery on specialty epoxy products?

**Most specialty epoxy products require 2-5 business days for delivery to Ottawa contractors, though some basic systems can arrive next-day through specific suppliers.**

Ottawa's epoxy supply chain primarily runs through industrial coating distributors like Sherwin-Williams Industrial, PPG Protective & Marine Coatings, and specialty flooring suppliers such as Laticrete Canada and Mapei. These distributors typically stock common **100% solids epoxy systems, standard polyaspartic coatings, and basic colour options** for same-day or next-day pickup at their Ottawa-area locations. However, specialty products like **metallic epoxy pigments, custom colour matches, high-performance polyurea systems, or specialized primers** usually require ordering from manufacturers in Toronto, Montreal, or the United States.

The reality for Ottawa contractors is that **next-day delivery is possible for about 60% of commonly used epoxy products**, particularly during the busy spring and summer application season when distributors maintain higher inventory levels. Products like Sherwin-Williams FasTop, PPG Pitt-Glaze, or Rust-Bullet garage floor systems can often be delivered within 24-48 hours. **Specialty metallic systems, custom flake blends, or commercial-grade polyurea coatings typically require 3-7 business days** as they're often mixed to order or shipped from specialized facilities.

**Ottawa's seasonal epoxy market creates inventory challenges** that affect delivery times. During peak season (April through October), distributors stock up on popular products, making faster delivery more likely. However, **winter months see reduced inventory** since epoxy application essentially stops in unheated spaces when temperatures drop below 10°C. Contractors planning projects should order specialty products well in advance, particularly for **decorative finishes, metallic systems, or high-performance commercial coatings** that may require custom formulation.

**Smart contractors maintain relationships with multiple suppliers** to ensure product availability. They also stock commonly used primers, standard grey and tan epoxy systems, and clear topcoats during busy periods. For homeowners hiring contractors, this delivery reality means that **projects requiring specialty finishes may need additional lead time** beyond the actual application schedule.

For contractor connections and project planning, homeowners can browse flooring specialists through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at [justynrookcontracting.com](http://justynrookcontracting.com), where local professionals can advise on product availability and project timelines.

## How much does a quartz broadcast aggregate cost per bag from Ottawa flooring suppliers?

**Quartz broadcast aggregate in Ottawa typically costs between \$45 and \$85 per 50-pound bag** from commercial flooring suppliers, with coverage ranging from 150 to 300 square feet per bag depending on broadcast density. The wide price range reflects differences in quartz grade, colour selection, and supplier markup, with specialty colours and finer mesh sizes commanding premium pricing.

### Understanding Quartz Broadcast Systems

Quartz broadcast aggregate serves as both a decorative element and functional component in high-performance epoxy systems. Unlike vinyl flake chips, quartz provides superior durability and slip resistance, making it the preferred choice for commercial garages, workshops, and areas subject to heavy traffic or chemical exposure. The quartz is broadcast into wet epoxy at specific rates — light broadcast uses 0.3 to 0.5 pounds per square foot, medium broadcast uses 0.5 to 0.8 pounds per square foot, and full broadcast uses 0.8 to 1.2 pounds per square foot for maximum durability.

**Ottawa suppliers stock quartz in mesh sizes from 12/20 (coarser) to 30/60 (finer)**, with 16/30 mesh being most common for residential garage applications. Coarser quartz provides more aggressive slip resistance but requires thicker topcoat systems to encapsulate properly. Finer quartz creates smoother finishes but may not provide adequate texture for wet conditions common in Ottawa garages during winter months.

The total system cost for a quartz broadcast floor runs **\$10 to \$16 per square foot installed** in Ottawa, including base epoxy, quartz aggregate, and polyurethane or polyaspartic topcoat. A standard two-car garage requires 2 to 4 bags of quartz depending on broadcast density, adding \$90 to \$340 in material costs alone. Professional contractors typically mark up quartz aggregate 30 to 50 percent above wholesale pricing.

**Climate considerations are critical for quartz broadcast timing** — the aggregate must be applied while the base epoxy remains tacky but not wet, requiring precise temperature and humidity control. Ottawa's spring and fall seasons provide optimal conditions, while summer heat can accelerate epoxy cure times and winter cold can prevent proper mechanical bond between quartz and base coat.

For homeowners planning quartz broadcast systems, professional installation is strongly recommended due to the technical requirements for proper broadcast rates, timing, and topcoat application. You can explore experienced flooring contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory at [justynrookcontracting.com](http://justynrookcontracting.com) using the flooring trade filter.

## How much does a metallic pigment additive kit cost from Ottawa epoxy suppliers?

**Metallic pigment additive kits for epoxy flooring in Ottawa typically cost between \$150 and \$400 per kit,** depending on the brand, pigment quality, and coverage area. These kits are designed to create stunning three-dimensional visual effects with swirled, marble-like patterns that shift and change as you move around the floor.

Most metallic pigment kits available from Ottawa suppliers cover approximately 200 to 400 square feet when mixed with the appropriate epoxy base. **Premium brands like Rust Bullet, Epoxy Plus, or Elite Crete** run \$300 to \$400 per kit, while more budget-friendly options from suppliers like Home Depot or Rona range from \$150 to \$250. The pigments themselves are typically mica-based powders that create the metallic sheen and depth.

However, the pigment kit is only one component of a complete metallic epoxy system. You'll also need a **clear epoxy base coat (\$200 to \$400 for a two-car garage)**, the metallic pigments, and a **clear topcoat for protection (\$150 to \$300)**. When you factor in all components plus tools and preparation materials, a complete DIY metallic epoxy system for a standard 400-square-foot garage runs \$800 to \$1,200 in materials alone.

**The challenge with metallic epoxy isn't the cost of materials — it's the application technique.** Creating those beautiful flowing patterns requires specific timing, temperature control, and artistic skill. The pigments must be applied while the base coat is at exactly the right tackiness, and the manipulation techniques determine the final appearance. Ottawa's temperature swings make timing even more critical, as cure rates change dramatically with ambient conditions.

**Professional metallic epoxy installation in Ottawa runs \$10 to \$20 per square foot,** reflecting both the material costs and the specialized labor required. Most homeowners who attempt DIY metallic epoxy end up with uneven patterns or color distribution that can't be easily corrected.

For the best selection of metallic pigment kits in Ottawa, check with local epoxy suppliers or browse flooring contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory who can source professional-grade materials and provide expert application.

## What is the cost difference between polyamine and polyamide epoxy hardeners in Ottawa?

**Polyamine and polyamide hardeners represent two different chemical curing systems for epoxy coatings, each with distinct performance characteristics and cost implications for Ottawa homeowners.** While both are legitimate epoxy hardener types, polyamine hardeners are far more common in residential and commercial flooring applications in the Ottawa market.

**Polyamine hardeners** are the standard choice for most epoxy floor coatings in Ottawa. These hardeners cure rapidly at room temperature, typically allowing foot traffic in 12-24 hours and full cure within 5-7 days. They work well in Ottawa's variable climate conditions and are compatible with the temperature requirements for garage and basement applications. Most 100% solids epoxy systems and water-based epoxy products available in Ottawa use polyamine hardening chemistry. The cost for polyamine-based epoxy systems runs **\$6-12 per square foot installed** for residential applications.

**Polyamide hardeners** create a more flexible, impact-resistant coating that remains workable longer during application. This extended pot life can be advantageous for large commercial projects but is less critical for typical residential garage floors. Polyamide-cured epoxy tends to have better chemical resistance and flexibility at low temperatures, which could benefit Ottawa's extreme winter conditions. However, polyamide systems typically cost **15-25% more** than equivalent polyamine systems due to the more expensive hardener chemistry.

In practical terms for Ottawa homeowners, a standard two-car garage coating with polyamine-based epoxy might cost \$2,400-4,800, while the same project with polyamide hardener could run \$2,800-6,000. The performance difference rarely justifies the additional cost for residential applications, especially since Ottawa's garage floors spend most of their time above freezing when vehicles are present.

**Most Ottawa contractors stock polyamine-based systems as their standard offering** because they provide excellent performance at a competitive price point. Polyamide systems are typically special-order items used for specific industrial applications requiring maximum chemical resistance or flexibility.

For your garage or basement floor project, focus on choosing between water-based, solvent-based, or 100% solids epoxy systems rather than hardener chemistry. The substrate preparation, coating thickness, and topcoat selection will have far greater impact on performance and longevity than hardener type. If you're considering epoxy flooring options, browse flooring contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory to discuss which system best matches your specific needs and budget.

## Is novolac epoxy worth the extra cost for chemical resistance in an Ottawa facility?

**Novolac epoxy is absolutely worth the extra cost for Ottawa facilities that face serious chemical exposure**, particularly manufacturing plants, automotive service bays, laboratories, and food processing facilities. The superior chemical resistance and thermal performance of novolac systems make them the gold standard for demanding industrial environments, even though they cost significantly more than standard bisphenol-A epoxy systems.

### Chemical Resistance Performance in Ottawa Conditions

Novolac epoxy contains multiple epoxide groups per molecule, creating an extremely dense, highly cross-linked polymer network when cured. This molecular structure provides exceptional resistance to acids, bases, solvents, and aggressive chemicals that would quickly degrade standard epoxy coatings. In Ottawa's industrial facilities, where **road salt, de-icing chemicals, hydraulic fluids, and cleaning solvents** are common, novolac epoxy maintains its integrity where other systems fail. The coating resists chemical attack, thermal shock, and the constant moisture cycling that Ottawa's extreme climate creates.

Standard bisphenol-A epoxy might handle light chemical exposure, but facilities dealing with battery acid, petroleum products, strong cleaners, or food-grade sanitizers need the robust protection that only novolac chemistry provides. The coating also performs exceptionally well in **high-temperature environments up to 150 degrees Celsius**, making it ideal for facilities with steam cleaning, hot process equipment, or areas exposed to thermal cycling.

**Ottawa pricing for novolac epoxy systems runs \$15 to \$25 per square foot installed**, compared to \$8 to \$15 per square foot for standard 100% solids epoxy. The premium reflects both material costs and the specialized application expertise required. Novolac systems typically require precise mixing ratios, controlled application temperatures, and extended cure schedules that demand experienced commercial flooring contractors.

The long-term value proposition becomes clear when you consider replacement costs and downtime. A properly applied novolac floor can last **15 to 25 years in harsh chemical environments**, while standard epoxy might require replacement every 5 to 8 years. In Ottawa's industrial market, facility downtime for floor replacement can cost thousands of dollars per day, making the initial premium investment economically sound.

**Spring and fall application seasons work best in Ottawa** for novolac systems, as they require ambient temperatures between 15 and 25 degrees Celsius during the extended cure period. The coating needs 7 to 14 days to reach full chemical resistance, during which temperature and humidity must remain stable.

For your specific facility assessment, evaluate the types and concentrations of chemicals present, frequency of exposure, and thermal conditions. If you're dealing with occasional mild chemical contact, standard epoxy with a

urethane topcoat might suffice. However, for serious chemical resistance requirements, novolac epoxy provides unmatched protection that justifies the premium cost. Consider consulting with experienced commercial flooring contractors through the Ottawa Construction Network directory to evaluate your specific chemical exposure and get detailed system recommendations for your facility.

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## How much does an epoxy crack injection kit cost at Ottawa building supply stores?

**Epoxy crack injection kits at Ottawa building supply stores typically cost between \$45 and \$180**, depending on the kit size and epoxy formulation. Basic residential kits designed for hairline cracks cost \$45 to \$85 at stores like Home Depot, Rona, and Lowes in the Ottawa area, while professional-grade kits for larger structural cracks run \$120 to \$180.

The most common residential kits contain **low-viscosity epoxy resin** specifically formulated to penetrate deep into concrete cracks. These kits usually include injection ports, surface sealer, mixing nozzles, and enough material to repair 10 to 25 linear feet of cracks depending on width and depth. Popular brands available in Ottawa include Quikrete, Sakrete, and Simpson Strong-Tie, with prices varying by about \$10 to \$15 between retailers.

**Professional-grade injection kits** cost more but offer superior penetration and structural bonding strength. These typically use **100% solids epoxy** with longer working times and higher bond strength ratings. The extra cost reflects better quality control, more precise mixing ratios, and resins designed for Ottawa's freeze-thaw cycles. Professional kits often include pressure injection equipment rather than gravity-feed systems.

### Climate Considerations for Ottawa Applications

**Temperature is critical** for successful crack injection in Ottawa. Most epoxy resins require concrete and air temperatures above **10°C during application and curing**. This effectively limits DIY crack injection to late spring through early fall for unheated garages, though basement work can proceed year-round in climate-controlled spaces. Winter crack injection requires heated workspace and may need specialized cold-weather formulations.

**Moisture content** in the crack significantly affects epoxy penetration and bonding. Spring snowmelt and Ottawa's high water table can push moisture through foundation cracks, preventing proper epoxy adhesion. Cracks should be completely dry before injection, which may require dehumidification or waiting for seasonal moisture levels to drop.

For **structural cracks wider than 3mm** or cracks showing continued movement, consult a structural engineer before attempting DIY repair. The Ottawa Construction Network directory at [justynrookcontracting.com](http://justynrookcontracting.com) lists concrete repair specialists who can assess whether crack injection is appropriate or if more extensive repair is needed.

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**Disclaimer:** This guide is provided for informational purposes only by Ottawa Epoxy Floors. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified, licensed contractors and your local building authority before starting any epoxy flooring, concrete coating, or floor resurfacing project. Information is current as of May 3, 2026 and may change. Visit [ottawaepoxyfloors.com](http://ottawaepoxyfloors.com) for the latest answers.