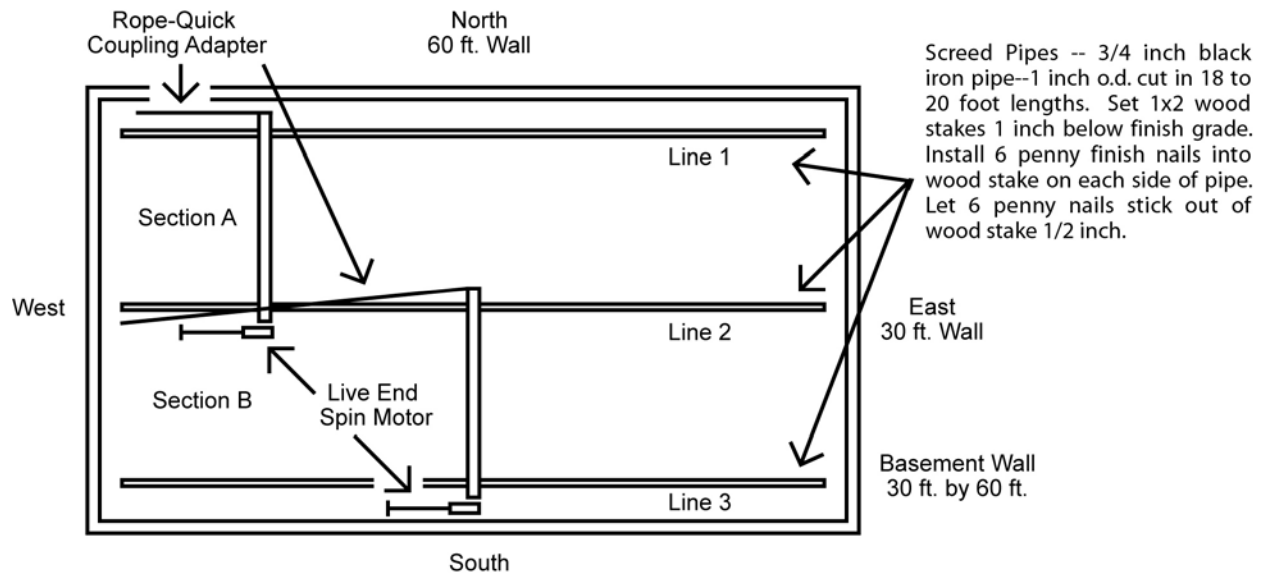




### Techniques for pouring a basement floor using the Spin Screed:

In my own construction business, I have used the Spin Screed on countless basement floors in order to produce a floor that is flatter than any other screeding operations that I have tested. The floor is flatter and we are able to pour it faster with less manpower and less work than other methods. Below is a description of the method that I use to pour a basement floor using a total of four men; two rakers, a dead end man, and a live end man.

**Figure 1:**



We begin by preparing the sub grade, and establishing the elevation of the finished floor. Once this has been accomplished, we snap a red chalk line along the interior wall of the foundation at the level of the finished basement floor. We set 1x2 wood stakes five feet apart along line 1, line 2 and line 3 as shown in the Fig.1. The stakes in line 1 and line 3 are placed about 18 inches from the basement wall. The stakes in line 2 are placed in the center of the foundation. In the example shown, the foundation is 30 feet by 60 feet. Each section to be screeded is approximately 14 feet wide; therefore, a 15 to 16 foot Spin Screed works great for this application. The wood stakes are placed about 5 feet apart with the top of the stakes set 1 inch below the final grade of the concrete. The 1 inch O.D. screed pipes are placed on top of the wood stakes so that the Spin Screed runs on the screed pipes. Six penny finish nails are driven into the top of the wood stakes on each side of the screed pipe so that they protrude approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from the top of the wood stake. Therefore, the tops of these nails are  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch below the finish grade of the floor and the bull float does not touch them during the bull floating operation.

In the example shown in Fig. 1, we begin by setting two screed pipes, one on the stakes in line 1 that butts the east wall and one on the stakes in line two that also butts the east wall. Two 18 to 20 foot long screed pipes are all that is needed to complete this pour. The screed pipes are advanced by sliding them along the top of the stakes as soon as a section of concrete has been screeded. Once advanced, the area just screeded is bull floated. Typically, we will begin by pouring enough concrete in section A so that we can screed a section approximately 18 feet long. While this concrete is being placed I have one man working with a wood darby or a 16 inch long wood float go along the foundation wall so that the area of concrete immediately adjacent (16 inches) to the wall is at the proper level. The freshly poured concrete should be even with the red line that was snapped on the wall previous to the pour. Once a section of concrete approximately 18 feet long has been placed, I move the Spin Screed pipe into position within about one foot of the east wall. The T handle, or the "rope-quick coupling" adapter is attached to the dead end of the Spin Screed while the Spin Screed motor is then attached to the live end of the Spin Screed. The Spin Screed motor will hang over line 2 approximately one foot as shown in Fig. 1. If the concrete was placed so that is

just comes up to line 2 in section A, the Spin Screed motor will be in an area where there is no wet concrete and therefore, the motor will stay clean and dry. Continue placing concrete in section A until you have reached the West wall of the foundation. Once you have come to a point that is about 5 feet from the West wall, the Spin Screed can no longer be used. Remove the Spin Screed, remove both screed pipes and place them on line 2 and line 3 butting the East wall so that the concrete in section B can be placed and screeded. We like to remove the screed pipes while standing near the West wall in that area of concrete that cannot be screeded with the Spin Screed. By staying in this area, the concrete just screeded is not disturbed. One of my stronger men is able to stand at one end of the screed pipe and lift the 18 to 20 foot screed pipe out of the wet concrete and hand it to others so it can be positioned for the next segment to be poured. The area in section A adjacent to the West wall that was not screeded with the Spin Screed can be screeded by one person using a 6 foot 2x4 and one raker working with him. Once this is accomplished and section A has been bull floated, you are ready to begin pouring section B. Once again, enough concrete is placed in section B adjacent to the East wall so that an 18 foot length can be screeded. While placing this concrete, one person, once again prepares that concrete immediately adjacent to the foundation wall to the proper grade. This is particularly important along the South wall so that you do not have excessive concrete in the vicinity of the spin motor. Once the 18 foot long section of section B has been screeded, the screed pipes are advanced, and the next section of concrete is placed and prepared for screeding. Before placing this next section of concrete, the bull float operator stands in front of the section just screeded and completes the bull floating operation of that section. During the placing of the next 18 foot section of concrete, the spin motor can be allowed to stand vertically along the South wall of the foundation. If the Spin Screed is positioned so that the Spin Screed motor is just 2 or 3 inches away from the South wall, the handle on the Spin Screed will lean against the foundation wall in such a manner that it will keep the spin motor vertical and therefore, the spin motor will stay out of any wet concrete. Continue to pour 18 foot lengths of concrete until you have reached the end of the pour. Again, a section 4 or 5 feet long will need to be screeded with a short 2x4 to finish the operation. If the concrete is placed sufficiently wet, it may not be necessary to fill in the areas vacated by the advancing screed pipes, as the areas vacated by the screed pipes will close during the bull floating operation. If you choose, to fill these areas, you can use a shovel to pitch concrete from in front of the Spin Screed back into these areas before the bull floating operation begins. The dead end T handle can be used during the entire screeding process, however, we have recently developed a "rope-quick coupling adapter" that makes the screeding process even easier. By using the "rope-quick coupling adapter" the dead end operator is able to stand in a position where he does not interfere with the rakers completing their task.

The above description for pouring a basement floor with walls on all sides represents one of the most difficult pours in concrete construction. If one side of the pour, say the South side in this example, is a walk out side, the task becomes much easier. In this case, the Spin Screed can run right on top of the "walk out foundation" wall eliminating the necessity for the screed pipe that would set on the stakes in line 3. At Spin Screed, Inc, we are always interested in learning about the techniques that you have developed that make the Spin Screed more versatile. Please feel free to call us with this information so that we can share it with others. At Spin Screed, Inc., we like to work together so that all of our work is easier, higher quality and more profitable.