Cabot® Solid Color Acrylic Deck Stain

Extremely durable two-coat finish withstands the worst weather and heavy foot traffic. For wood in fair to excellent condition – concrete, too!

GET IT RIGHT
PROJECT CHECKLIST

Cabot® Solid Color Acrylic Deck Stain

SUPPLIES

- Cabot® Solid Color Acrylic Deck Stain
- Cabot® Wood Cleaner
- Pump sprayer
- Stir stick
- Nylon or polyester brush/pad applicator/professional spray equipment
- Sanding block or pole sander (80-100-grit sandpaper)
- Drop cloth(s) to protect nearby plants
- Safety goggles and other protective gear

BEFORE YOU START

Resist Temptation!

We know it’s the least “fun” part of the job, but prep is where the magic happens. Skimp here—stain over dirt, grime, mold or mildew—and you’ll end up with color you didn’t want and protection that doesn’t last. Do it right. You’ll thank yourself later!

Wait for a Dry Spell.

Stain protects by penetrating wood pores – which won’t happen if they’re already full of water. That’s why it’s important to let wood dry in the open air for 24-48 hours before staining. (If it rains, start the clock again!)

No Sweat.

You’ll be happy to know that staining on too hot a day is NOT recommended. Speaking of hot, don’t try to stain a hot deck surface, and avoid staining in full (and blazing) noontime sun.

Protect your Plantings.

Cover nearby bushes and flowers and, if they’re delicate, hose them down thoroughly before and after cleaning to dilute any stray cleaning solution.

Pretest Color

in a hidden spot, using a dry or damp rag. Make sure you like it before you begin!

Stir Now, Stir Later

to keep color consistent. For the same reason, mix multiple gallons together before starting.
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PREP FOR POTENTIAL

☐ Sand it!
  • Even new wood needs cleaning and sanding with 80-100-grit sandpaper to remove shiny “mill glaze” and open wood pores for even stain penetration. (You can test the surface with a few drops of water to see if it beads up or absorbs.)
  • Previously stained and weathered surfaces need to be sanded first (to bare wood, if coated) and then cleaned.

☐ Clean it!
  Use Cabot Wood Cleaner to remove dirt, grime, mildew and other contaminants.
  • One gallon of Ready-to-Use Wood Cleaner cleans about 200 sq. ft.
  • Just apply with pump sprayer and work into dirtiest spots with a bristle brush. Let cleaner sit on surface 15-20 minutes, then rinse with a hose.
  • Some dead gray wood fibers may also rinse off, which is normal (and desirable!)
  • Let dry completely (24-48 hours).

☐ Sand it!
  • Sand after cleaning, because it raises the wood grain a little … and sanding will restore a smooth surface.
  • Be sure to remove any sanding dust before staining, or stain will show the dust.

STAIN FOR SUCCESS

☐ Stain it!
  Apply, starting at one end of project and working your way to the other.
  • Work in small sections (1-3 boards).
  • No matter how you apply, brush each new section back into the last section (back brushing) to avoid lap marks.

  Let dry 4-6 hours, depending on temperature and humidity.

  Apply second coat, using same technique as the first time.

  Let second coat dry at least 24 hours before replacing furniture.

☐ Relax!
  You’ve got the sweetest deck in the neighborhood.

Notes

Helpful Videos
View the playlist
youtube.com/Cabot

Questions Answered
1-800-US-STAIN
Experts on call, 7 days a week

Even More Help
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