

## OPACITY PROTECTION SCALE

Clear Wood Protector Spar Varnish Wood Toners Gold Australian Timber Oil® Semi-Transparent Semi-Solid **Solid 5-10 Years Durability** DeckCorrect®

MAXIMUM WOOD GRAIN  
GOOD PROTECTION

NO VISIBLE WOOD GRAIN  
MAXIMUM PROTECTION

# GET IT RIGHT PROJECT CHECKLIST

## Cabot® Solid Color Acrylic Stain + Sealer

Extremely durable finish withstands the worst weather and heavy foot traffic. For wood in fair to excellent condition.



## You're good to go if ...

- ✓ You follow the steps on this checklist.
- ✓ You call for help if problems arise. No question is too small. **1-800-US-STAIN**

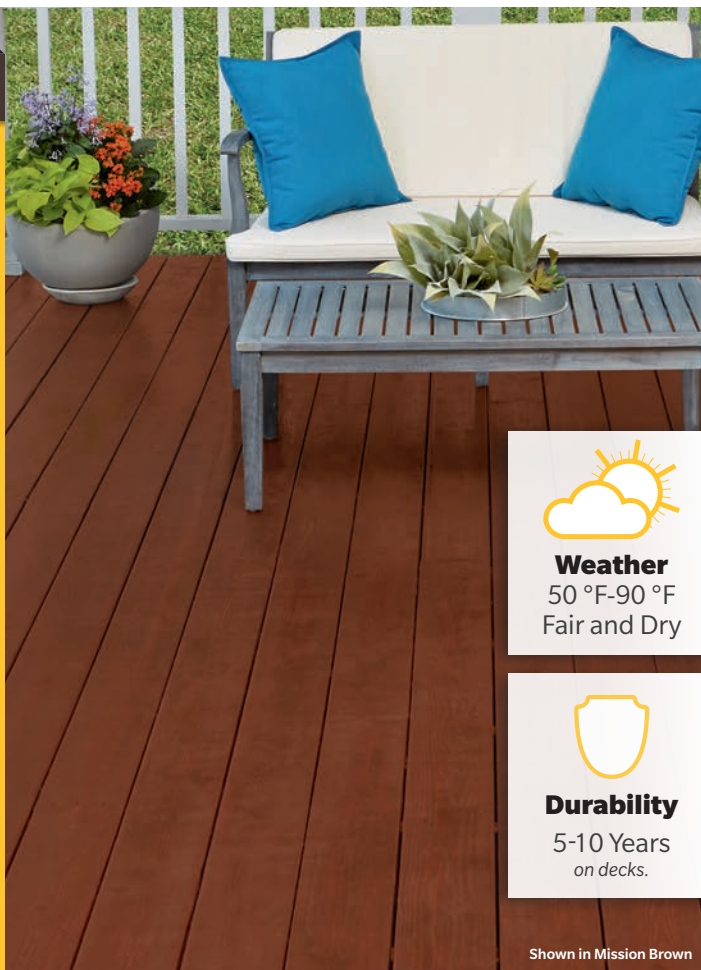
## Before You Start

### **Resist Temptation!**

Prep is the least "fun" part of the job, but it's also where the magic happens. Stain over dirt and grime or mold and mildew, and you'll get color you didn't expect and protection that doesn't last. Do yourself a favor and prep!



- 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!)



**Weather**  
50 °F-90 °F  
Fair and Dry



**Durability**  
5-10 Years  
on decks.

Shown in Mission Brown

## Supplies

- ☐ Cabot Solid Color Acrylic Stain + Sealer
- ☐ Cabot Wood Cleaner
- ☐ Cabot Wood Brightener
- ☐ 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

- 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. 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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## PROJECT CHECKLIST

### Cabot® Solid Color Acrylic Stain + Sealer



## Prep for Potential

### □ Sand it!

- Even new wood needs cleaning and sanding with 80-100- grit sandpaper to remove shiny “mill glaze” and smooth the surface.
- Previously stained and weathered surfaces need to be sanded of any loose coating 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 to dampened wood, 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) before staining or brightening (if necessary).

### □ Brighten it!

**Use Cabot Wood Brightener to remove unsightly rust stains and tannin bleed.**

- One ready-mix gallon brightens about 200 sq. ft.
- Just apply with pump sprayer to dampened wood, and work into stains with bristle brush. Let sit 15-20 minutes, then rinse with hose.
- Cabot Wood Brightener also returns wood to its lighter original color, which is important if you’re using a more translucent stain this time.
- Let dry completely (24-48 hours).

### □ Sand it!

- Sand after cleaning and brightening, because these raise 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.**

**Questions? 1-800-US-STAIN** [cabotstain.com](http://cabotstain.com)

NOTE: Not all products are available at all retailers. Please consider an alternate option from the quiz, or work with your local associate to identify another product if your first choice is unavailable.



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