

## OPACITY PROTECTION SCALE

Clear Wood Protector	Spar Varnish	Wood Toners	<b>Gold</b> 3-5 Years Durability	Australian Timber Oil®	Semi-Transparent	Semi-Solid	Solid	DeckCorrect®
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MAXIMUM WOOD GRAIN  
GOOD PROTECTION

NO VISIBLE WOOD GRAIN  
MAXIMUM PROTECTION

# GET IT RIGHT PROJECT CHECKLIST

## Cabot® Gold

The look of hardwood floors outdoors.

First coat penetrates to protect. Second coat seals. For wood in new or excellent condition.



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

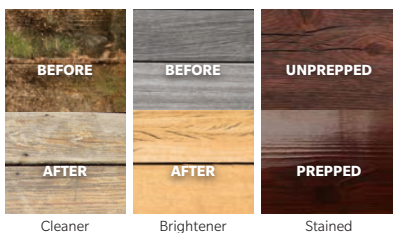
- ✓ You follow the steps on this checklist.
- ✓ You call for help if problems arise. No question is too small. **1-800-US-STAIN**

## Before You Start

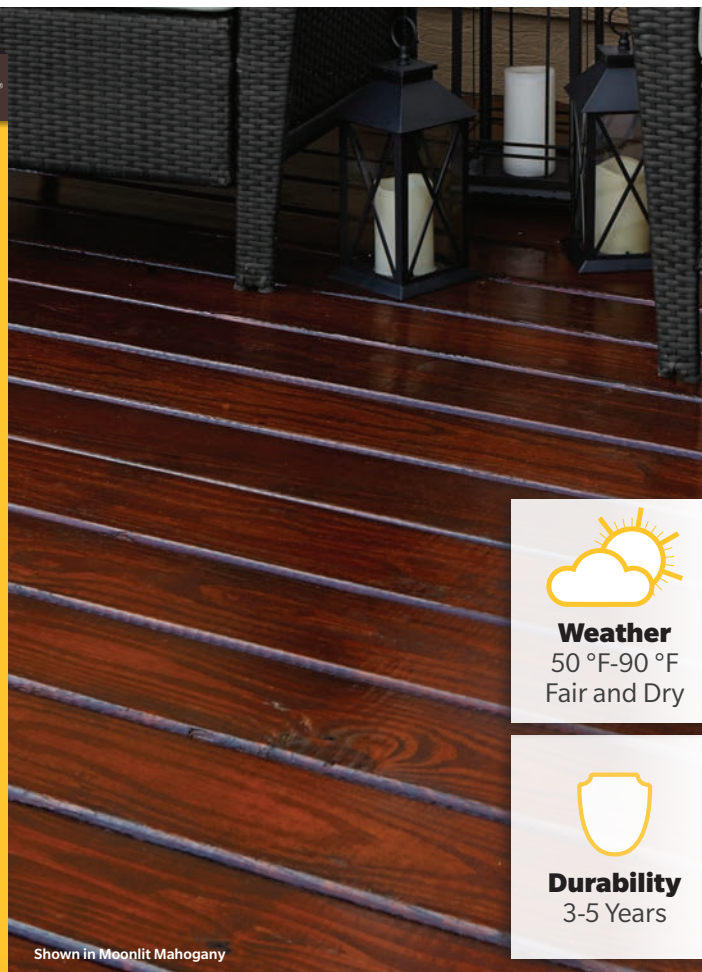
**If Wood is New**, let it age 45 days first, or until a drop of water is absorbed instead of beading up.

### 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**  
3-5 Years

## Supplies

- ☐ Cabot Gold
- ☐ Cabot Wood Cleaner
- ☐ Cabot Wood Brightener
- ☐ Pump sprayer
- ☐ Stir stick
- ☐ Natural bristle brush
- ☐ Sanding block or pole sander (120-180-grit sandpaper for pre-cleaning, 220-grit sandpaper between coats)
- ☐ 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.

# GET IT RIGHT

## PROJECT CHECKLIST

### Cabot® Gold



## Prep for Potential

**i If Wood is New,** let it age 45 days first, or until a drop of water is absorbed instead of beading up.

### □ 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 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 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 first coat with a high-quality stain brush.** Stain applicators and sprayers are NOT recommended.

- Work in small sections (2-3 boards), brushing new section back into the last section (back brushing) to avoid lap marks.
- If there's ample room between boards, apply to these surfaces, too.

**Let first coat dry 24+ hours** – but no longer than 7 days.

- Expect the first coat to look somewhat uneven. No worries! The second coat adds color, beauty, dimension and lots of protection.

**Sand again, using 220-grit sandpaper** and a very light touch. (This will give you outstanding results.)

**Apply second coat,** using same method as before.

**Let dry 24-48 hours, depending on temperature and humidity.**

- Allow three days before returning furniture to deck, and seven days before heavy use such as hosting a party or entertaining!

### □ 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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