



# Technical Data Sheet

Wolman Wood Care Products  
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An RPM Company

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## Deck & Fence Brightener Wood Cleaner & Coating Prep

### Description

**Wolman® Deck & Fence Brightener - Wood Cleaner & Coating Prep** actually functions as two (2) products: (1) a cleaner for weathered wood and (2) a pre-coating preparation for new or weathered wood. When mixed with water, *Deck & Fence Brightener liquid concentrate* quickly and safely restores dirty, weathered-gray, mildew and algae-stained wood to its bright, natural, like-new look. **Unlike *DeckBrite powder concentrate*, it also removes rust stains from nail bleed and black tannin stains from tannin-rich woods such as Cedar, Redwood and exotic hardwoods.** In just 10 minutes, *Deck & Fence Brightener's* chlorine-free formula deep cleans without damaging the wood's cell structure or leaving a bleached-out look. It also eliminates residual traces of old water sealers from weathered wood and invisible coating barriers such as "mill glaze" from new Cedar, enabling proper adhesion and penetration of protective sealers and stains. And, the 100% biodegradable formula will not harm grass or surrounding plant life.

### Special Features

- **Easy to Use, Contractor Friendly** – just mix, spray and power wash away!
- **Clings to Vertical Surfaces** for effective cleaning the first time around.
- **No Neutralizer Needed** – saves time and effort.

### Removes the Following Coating Barriers

#### From Weathered Wood:

- Ground-In Dirt
- Mildew, Mold & Algae stains
- Grayed Surface
- Old Sealers & Clear Finishes

#### From New Wood:

- Surface Wax
- Mill Glaze

### Recommended Uses

**FOR EXTERIOR USE ONLY.**

**WOOD TYPES: Universal Cleaner** - use on all wood types -- pressure-treated lumber, Cedar, Redwood, exotic hardwoods (Mahogany, Ipé, Teak, etc.), and North American hardwoods.



**PROJECTS:** Use to prepare or restore outdoor wood decks, porches, fences, siding, shakes & shingles, outdoor furniture & décor, boat docks, boardwalks, gazebos & arbors, play sets and more.

### Getting Started – Evaluating Wood Condition

#### Step 1 – Perform a Splash Test:

Regardless of whether wood is newly installed or pre-existing, it is important to determine if there is a surface barrier present which would prevent the proper penetration or adhesion of a new coating. To conduct a Splash Test, sprinkle several handfuls of water on a few distinct areas of the surface. If the water absorbs rapidly, the surface will accept a new coating. **If the water beads, puddles or is not absorbed in 10 minutes, an internal or external barrier exists, and must be eliminated before coating can begin.**

#### Step 2 – Prepare or Restore the Surface:

Before applying a protective coating, such as a water sealer or stain, select and use **Wolman® Deck & Fence Brightener (Liquid Concentrate)** if you have one of the following **WOOD CONDITIONS** described below. After preparation, repeat Splash Test to confirm water absorption.

#### Wood Condition:

**Uncoated, New Wood** – Beading or puddling water on **new pressure-treated lumber** may indicate either excessive surface wax or internal moisture content. If **Cedar or Redwood**, "mill glaze" on the surface is possible. According to label and Technical Data Sheet guidelines, use *Wolman Deck & Fence Brightener liquid concentrate*, then conduct Splash Test again. If absorption is not improved on pressure-treated wood, allow wood to dry two weeks in temperate weather (avg. 70°F, 50% humidity), longer in cooler or more humid conditions. Test for absorption again before applying a protective coating.

**Uncoated, Weathered Wood** – Before coating ANY weathered wood, (pressure-treated, Cedar, Redwood, domestic or exotic hardwoods, composites, etc.), it must be thoroughly cleaned to remove ground-in dirt, mildew, mold and algae stains, gray, UV-damaged wood fibers and any other surface contaminants. According to label and Technical Data Sheet guidelines, use *Wolman Deck & Fence Brightener liquid concentrate*, then conduct Splash Test again.

**User Tip – New generation (non-CCA) pressure-treated lumber, when initially installed, may develop pronounced mildew growth during the first few months of weathering.** To reduce or avoid mildew stain on the coating film and immediately protect against water damage, **prep surface with *Deck & Fence Brightener* and then pre-treat with *RainCoat® Clear Water Repellent – Oil-Base Formula* for 6 months** or allow wood to weather for 1 to 3 months before applying a protective coating.

**Previously Coated, Weathered Wood** – If wood is coated with a [clear sealer or lightly pigmented finish and little to no pigment remains](#), *Wolman Deck & Fence Brightener liquid concentrate* may be used to restore the surface, remove residual coating/water repellency and prepare the wood for re-coating.

### **Product Preparation**

Based on mixing directions listed below, **combine *Deck & Fence Brightener liquid concentrate* with water to make cleaning solution.** Each gallon of solution cleans approximately 150 sq. ft., depending on wood age, species, surface porosity and method of application.

### **Recommended Application Method**

#### ***Homeowner/DIY'er:***

**On Horizontal Surfaces:** Apply solution with a **pump sprayer (without aluminum parts), brush or mop.**

**On Vertical Surfaces:** Apply solution with a **pump sprayer (without aluminum parts) or deep-nap roller**, working from the bottom to the top of the structure.

#### **Professional Contractor:**

**On Horizontal or Vertical Surfaces:** Apply solution with a **pump sprayer (no aluminum parts) or airless sprayer.**

### **Application Instructions**

**Before You Start** – Replace rotted, extremely weathered or warped boards. Pre-rinse grass, plants and shrubs surrounding wood structure to be cleaned. Cover any exposed aluminum surfaces to prevent corrosion. Sweep away surface dust, dirt and debris. If the surface is hot to the touch or in direct sunlight, dampen with fresh water to cool.

**Weather Conditions** – Apply when outside temperatures are between 40°F and 90°F.

#### **Application Steps – Step 1 – Mix**

In a five gallon plastic bucket, combine one gallon concentrate with four gallons water to make five gallons solution, enough to clean/prepare approximately 750 sq. ft. Each gallon of solution cleans approximately 150 sq. ft. If less than five gallons solution is needed, use a plastic, outdoor measuring device to combine one part concentrate with four parts water. Stir for one minute or until solution is thoroughly blended. Do not mix with any other products.

#### **Step 2 – Apply**

Pre-wet surface with fresh water. Then, working on 5-10 boards (20 sq. ft.) at a time to maintain optimum surface wetness, apply solution and let sit for 10 minutes, if solution dries prematurely, keep it wet with more solution as needed.

#### **Step 3 – Brush or Pressure Wash**

**Briefly scrub** surface with *Wolman WOODWORX® Deck Brush* or other **stiff**, synthetic, short-bristle broom or brush, using moderate pressure

**OR**

**Pressure wash**, using a 40° tip and 1,500-2,500 PSI for pressure-treated wood and hardwood, 500-1,000 PSI for Cedar and Redwood. Move lengthwise with boards to avoid cut marks across grain.

**Either technique** helps ensure old surface is entirely removed.

#### **Step 4 – Rinse**

If pressure washing is not employed, **after brushing, rinse thoroughly with a garden hose**, using the highest pressure nozzle setting available. On a vertical surface, continually rinse brightened areas to avoid streaking. Rinse any wood fibers off

surrounding surfaces immediately. When dry, wood surface should appear clean, bright and free of mildew and algae stains.

Recommended Number of Coats – **APPLY ONE (1) COAT, and allow to sit for ENTIRE recommended time of 10 minutes.** Heavily weathered, extremely dirty or badly stained areas may need a second application.

**CAUTION: BARE WOOD OR COATED SURFACES CAN BECOME SLIPPERY WHEN WET. Use caution when walking on wet surfaces.**

Coverage Rate – **Depending on wood age and species, surface porosity, method of application**, one (1) gallon of solution covers approximately 150 sq. ft.

**Dry Time** – Allow wood to dry thoroughly before applying a water-base finish, and **at least 24 hours before applying an oil-base finish.**

**Clean Up** – **Clean tools and equipment after use with soap and water.**

**Storage** – **Store unused concentrate in the closed, original labeled container.**

### **Packaging**

***Deck & Fence Brightener Liquid Concentrate* is available in a 1-Gallon Bottle**

1 Gallon                      Makes 5 gallons                      Covers 750 sq. ft.

### **Technical Data**

Active Ingredient:	<b>Oxalic Acid</b>
pH of Concentrate:	<b>0.7-1.2</b>
pH in Solution:	<b>1.0-2.0</b>
Biodegradable:	<b>Active ingredient biodegrades into Inert chemicals</b>
Weight per Gallon:	<b>8.6 +/- 0.1 lb./gal.</b>
Viscosity of Concentrate:	<b>6000-7000 cps; Spindle #3 @ 6 RPM</b>
Viscosity in Solution:	<b>17-19 seconds #2 Zahn</b>

**Compatibility:** This product will clean but not remove oil or latex stains and paints in sound condition. **Care should be taken to cover any exposed aluminum surfaces to prevent discoloration, as this product is corrosive to metal.** Once dry, surfaces cleaned with this product may be coated with oil or water-base water repellents, transparent finishes, colored stains or paints.

### **Safe Handling**

**DO NOT MIX WITH ANY OTHER PRODUCTS**, especially those containing chlorine or bleach (sodium hypochlorite). Rinse plants with water after exposure.

### **Precautions**

**DANGER: CONTAINS OXALIC ACID.** Causes eye irritation. Can cause skin irritation. Prevent contact with eyes and skin. During preparation and application, wear rubber or PVC gloves and safety goggles. Wash thoroughly after handling. May be harmful if swallowed. Do not breathe spray mist. If applying with a sprayer, wear a properly fitted, NIOSH-approved respirator. Use only with adequate ventilation. **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

**For additional Technical Information, call 1-800-556-7737 or visit [www.wolman.com](http://www.wolman.com).**