

How To Apply Rainforest, and Mountain XT on Decks & Siding



General Instructions

- Apply to raw, absorbent, dry weathered wood.
- Strip with Pressure Washer
- Kill Mildew | Mold | Algae
- Dry below 18% moisture content
- Brush, Spray or Roll & always Back Brush
- Do a test before starting. Make sure your chosen method of application allows the product to soak fully into the wood you are coating. Add 16 oz per gallon of Pure Citrus Solvent if it doesn't soak in. This will help it soak in deeper.
- Dry Brush Excess Before Leaving Job, Use a dry brush to catch drips or thick areas.
- If doing one coat on decking use Mountain XT.
- If doing two coats on decking apply Rainforest first then Mountain XT.
- Rainforest breathes and flexes with the wood and must penetrate fully to do so.
- Mountain XT will form a strong weather barrier top coat but is also excellent for a one coat application on wood.
- For recoats do proper prep and apply Mountain XT or a penetrating coat of Rainforest.
- Put Oil Soaked Rags in Water do not leave piled up.
- Clean up with water and Citrus Solvent Cleaner.

Earthpaint Wood Finish Basics

Surface Density: If this is your first time using an Earthpaint Wood Finish please take a few minutes to understand the basic principle of Surface Density that our formulas are based on. This means we seek to achieve fully saturated wood fibers in their driest most absorbent state with high density resin content.

When this is done with a rubbing oil or penetrating stain the wood becomes saturated with high resin content. Future maintenance coats will sure up the surface even more and provide a petrification effect. The surface will be so dense with resin that it hardens much more than if your stripped the coating and applied a new coat. This makes future maintenance less frequent and less labor intensive. This is why its important to make sure the wood fully absorbs the coating. We optimize the coatings for the most common wood but all wood is different. For this reason you should do a test before beginning the job.

Mountain XT, One application only (no top coat): Most dry wood will absorb all of the first coat after an overnight soaking. Do an overnight test before starting the job to make sure the wood you are coating is absorbent. This is the only real trick to applying a single coat. If your are doing two coats it's much less important. This is because it doesn't matter if the base coat doesn't absorb completely because the Mountain XT will even out the sheen when it's applied as a top coat.

When you do the prep: Brush on a sample area and check it the next morning. It should not be on the surface at all but fully saturated into the wood. If it's not then add 16 oz of Pure Citrus Solvent to help the

coating soak in deeper. This precaution will allow you to move fast on the job with no surprises. After the first job this practice usually becomes second nature.

Prep

KILL MICROBIAL GROWTH: The wood must be clean. Scrub with Bleach. Mix 4oz TSP (tri sodium phosphate) or equivalent, 1-2 qts Bleach, 2 qts water, scrub for 20 minutes. Keep surface wet. It takes time for the mildew spores to completely die. If you don't kill them, they will get spread around by the brush and turn black in time. This is vital to a good deck job no matter what product you use. Even new wood usually has some fungi spores in it, especially if it sits at a jobsite. It's often not easily visible. If in doubt, wash it.

Strip wood surface: If you don't want a grey patina strip the wood. If you don't want the grey to come back, **Add color to the product before staining the deck.** This gives best protection from sun and retains the color longer. Strip previous coatings unless it's an Earthpaint coating or test to see if Mountain XT, or Clear Skies Paint is compatible as a top coat. When using a Pressure Washer to strip grey or black patina or old coatings: Feather 15 degree nozzle in from a distance and feather out so there are no cut marks or wood damage. Remove surface patina.

Stir Coating: Raise the Zinc Borate from the bottom of the can. Keep dispersed throughout the day. This gives extra UV Radiation, Fungi and Algae protection.

Application

Always test for personal sensitivities and preferences in small inconspicuous areas before application to the entire surface.

Decks: Brush rails first. Protect surfaces not immediately being coated such as plants or decking. Finish one rail section at a time on both sides. Return in an hour or two to catch any drips or runs. Brush out knot holes or extra absorbent areas. Employ a dry brush when necessary to thin out thick, less absorbent areas.

When rails are finished roll and backbrush decking. Use 1/2" to 3/4" roller, Push into wood. Fully saturate wood. Put a brush on or in the end of an extension pole and brush in the corners, the gaps and the flat decking surface. Brush out evenly and uniformly. To avoid lap marks work 3-5 boards from end to end. Start at the far end and work your way out the best exit.

Siding: Protect areas not being coated. Brush into wood or Spray and backbrush. If spraying be sure to apply thick enough to saturate the wood and be backbrushed into the wood without running. Leave the wood fully saturated. This will be very visible and satisfying when clear coating woods like Cedar.

With stains you'll notice that as the wood takes in the nutrients it will clearly richen up in color. Brush out the stain evenly, with the grain, uniformly. Catch any drips or runs with a dry brush. Employ a dry brush when necessary to thin out thick, less absorbent areas. Brush out knot holes, rough sections or extra absorbent areas.

Top Coat: Brush or Spray Mountain XT over Rainforest Sealer. This will give a flexible base coat with a durable top coat weather barrier.

Cautions: Vegetable Oil soaked rags can self ignite, especially if left piled up in the sun. Dry flat in open air or soak in a pail of water. Rags can be composted after they are dried out. Wear approved [NIOSH](#) respirator, safety goggles, gloves and protective clothing.

Tips: If Rainforest excess is not wiped off completely or is forgotten surface may become gummy. Simply wipe off excess with Earthpaint Pure Citrus Solvent. Don't wait to see if it dries. It requires cellulose fibers to coalesce into a flexible, high density, penetrating coat; it's not meant to form a film. Mountain XT will dry into a hard film.

Maintenance

Over One Coat of Mountain XT; Follow prep instructions for cleaning the surface. Apply penetrating coat of Mountain XT.

Over Rainforest Sealer with a top coat of Mountain XT: Follow prep instructions for cleaning the surface. Brush on a clear coat of Mountain XT. Watch high exposure sides of the building. Recoat as needed before deterioration. Mountain XT can be tinted if needed.

Terms of Use:

Instructions are to be used at the users best discretion. These instructions are intended as an aid to finishing with natural materials. The entire scope of finishing cannot be covered here. The techniques described should be practiced before implementing professionally. It is up to the user to insure that safe practices are followed.

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