

## Working With Cetol® DEK Finish

### ■ Preparation Procedures

---

#### *New, Uncoated Deck Surfaces*

Prepare wood surface by mechanically sanding with 60-80 grit sandpaper

#### *Weathered, Uncoated Deck Surfaces*

#### **Cleaning Recommendation**

1. Spray the surface with clean water, wetting the wood.
2. Clean the surface with a solution of four ounces of 100% powdered Tri-Sodium Phosphate (TSP) or phosphate free substitute plus one quart of liquid bleach in three quarts of water. Apply this solution generously to the wood with a garden pump sprayer.
3. Let the solution sit on the wood for 15-20 minutes. During this period, scrub the surface with a hard bristle brush to help remove mill glaze or weathering. Do not let the solution dry on the wood. Keep the wood wet.
4. Power wash the cleaning solution from the wood with clean water. To prevent damaging the wood, do not exceed 500 psi. The nozzle must be a maximum of one foot from the surface for full effectiveness.
5. Let the surface dry for three days before application (i.e., the moisture content is below 18%).
6. **All horizontal surfaces must be mechanically sanded using 60-80 grit sandpaper after cleaning.**
7. Cetol DEK Finish should be applied within one week of preparation.

#### **Tips**

- *It is always recommended to perform a two-coat color test on a sample of the wood.*
- *For application on exotic hardwood, immediately prior to applying coating wipe surface with acetone.*
- *Weathered grey wood or wood affected with blue fungi or rust from nails may be treated after the surface preparation by applying a solution of four ounces of oxalic acid crystals in one gallon of warm water. This solution should be allowed to sit on the affected areas for 15-20 minutes before the final rinse with clean water. Let dry three days before coating.*
- *New pressure-treated lumber requires a six-week drying period. Water-repellent treated lumber requires one year of weathering prior to application.*
- ***Previous coatings must be removed prior to the application of Cetol DEK Finish.***

# CETOL® DEK FINISH APPLICATION GUIDE

## ■ Application Procedures

---

Coverage area per coat for Cetol DEK Finish is 350-450 sq. ft./U.S. gal. (smooth wood).

### **New/Bare Wood Applications**

1. Follow the preparation procedures.
2. Apply first coat of Cetol DEK Finish (all six sides)
3. Let surface dry for minimum of 24 hours
4. Apply second coat of Cetol DEK Finish
5. Clean tools with mineral spirits

### **Application Do's ...**

- *First coat must be applied to all six sides*
- *Apply when the surface and air temperature is 50 °F/10 °C to 95 °F/35 °C*
- *Stir well before using*
- *Saturate all end grains, nail holes and cracks in the wood*
- *Apply liberally using a long-haired natural bristle brush*
- *Maintain a wet edge to prevent lap marks*
- *Apply in direction of the wood grain*
- *Intermix batches to ensure color consistency*
- *Wait at least seven days before moving furniture back onto the deck surface.*

### **Application Don'ts ...**

- *Do not apply when surface is hot to the touch*
- *Do not apply when dew or frost is present or expected within five hours*
- *Do not apply in wet weather*
- *Do not apply on unventilated/skirted decks or areas subjected to high moisture*
- *Do not apply on decks with less than two-foot clearance from the ground*
- *Do not apply on enclosed porches or covered porches*
- *Do not apply when moisture content of the wood is greater than 18%*
- *Do not thin*
- *Do not apply by rolling or spraying*

# CETOL® DEK FINISH APPLICATION GUIDE

## ■ Maintenance Procedures

---

Proper maintenance starts with visual inspection. One coat of Cetol DEK Finish must be applied every 18 months. For exotic hardwood, one coat of Cetol DEK Finish must be applied every 12 months. However, as weathering, exposure, and altitude vary, maintenance may be needed sooner and should be performed when visually necessary regardless of timeframe.

1. Follow the preparation procedures using the above cleaning solution, reducing it to two ounces of 100% Tri-Sodium Phosphate or phosphate-free substitute. Let surface dry three days.
2. Apply one coat of Cetol DEK Finish.