STRIP & BRITE APPLICATION GUIDE

Timber Pro Coatings 2232 East Burnside Portland, OR 97214
Phone: (503) 232-1705 Toll Free: (888) 888-6095
www.TimberProCoatings.com

Strip & Brite is a TWO-STEP SYSTEM for cleaning and stripping wood. STEP 1 is a thin pink gel (potassium hydroxide) to clean and strip the wood. STEP 2 is a crystalline powder (citric acid) that is mixed with water and used to brighten the wood and neutralize the stripping process. These are water based chemicals and will not harm plants when used according to directions. BOTH STEPS MUST BE COMPLETED TO ENSURE BIODEGRADABILITY. Use the **Strip & Brite** TWO-STEP SYSTEM to restore discolored wood and prepare it for refinishing with **Timber Pro UV** stains.

COVERAGE: Gel (step 1) will cover approximately 100 sq. ft. per gallon when used full strength without dilution. It can be stretched up to 200-400 sq. ft. per gallon if diluted with water for use on less severely discolored wood. However, do not skimp on product as this may necessitate additional applications. Accompanying 12 oz package of citric acid crystals (step 2) will dissolve into 1.5 gallons of warm water and will cover 200-300 sq ft per package. Steps 1 and 2 are sold as a set. Extra packages of the neutralizer/blonder (step 2) are available for purchase if needed.

TEST PATCH PREPARATION: Stripper will only break down transparent oil based stains and sealers containing no silicone, acrylic, latex, or urethane. More pigmented oil based stains may need 2-3 applications of stripper to break down. On vertical surfaces such as siding, using the stripper undiluted is recommended because the thicker gel clings and stays put better. Make a full strength and a half strength solution and test both on two areas of the wood, one area that is very weathered and another area where original stain is still intact, such as under eaves. Apply the test solution in a long strip, allowing it to sit for 30 minutes initially, then scrub and rinse sections of the test strip about every 30 minutes. Scrub and test incrementally to determine how long stripper needs to activate to remove discoloration and original stain. Keep test patch damp by lightly misting with more diluted stripper during process. Follow application procedure of step 1 and 2 for the patch test. To order liquid samples contact Timber Pro Coatings, toll free 888-888-6095.

APPLICATION, STEP ONE (Stripper): Mask off all non-wood surfaces not requiring stripping. Stripper may etch glass. Cover nearby plants, solution may burn the leaves but rinse residue does not kill surrounding vegetation. High volumes of water however needed to rinse stripper and neutralizer may "drown" smaller plants. Work in manageable size areas, such as 200 sq ft at a time. Mist the wood lightly with plain water to slightly dampen surface. Apply solution liberally with roller, brush, or sprayer (only diluted stripper will go through pump sprayer) at rate of one gallon to every 100 sq ft. **If stripping a vertical wall, start applying solution at bottom and work up - very important!** This will eliminate lighter colored drip streaks where solution ran down onto dry wood. Apply liberally and evenly to discolored wood surface. Let gel sit on wood for 30-45 minutes. For heavy buildup of old stain, use undiluted gel and leave it on as long as needed to break it down, sometimes a few hours. If the gel begins to dry during the process, lightly mist with more diluted stripper to re-activate but don't wet it so much it starts to drip down the wall. Strip & Brite gel must always remain damp or the process will fail. For best results, agitate with a brush - then power wash (under 1500 psi) wood to remove gel. **When power-washing or rinsing siding, always start at top of wall and work downwards.** On log homes, be aware some water may travel through logs to the interior of the home. Keep large towels handy to catch water that migrates to interior. You may choose to agitate with a stiff brush and rinse with a strong hose spray in place of pressure washing. RINSE SOLUTION WELL PRIOR TO STEP TWO. Newly cleaned wood will still appear dark until STEP TWO is completed. You may wait a day or two to perform Step 2 neutralizer if needed.

NOTE: If stripper gel comes in contact with wood previously stripped and brightened, the stripper will turn the wood dark again and will need to be rinsed and re-blonded with the Step 2 neutralizer.

APPLICATION, STEP TWO (Neutralizer-Blonder): Crystalline powder (step 2) should be dissolved in 1.5 gallons of warm water per 12 ounces powder before use. Apply dissolved crystal solution to wood with a low-pressure sprayer (20-30 psi), roller, brush or paint pad. On siding, start application at top of wall and work downward. Let it sit on the wood for a minimum of 15-30 minutes. RINSE WELL WITH WATER. Cleaning process may cause surface fibers to fuzz. While still wet, scrub with stiff brush in direction of the grain to remove fuzzing or, if this is not sufficient, remove fuzz by sanding (with 60-80 grit) once wood is dry. Allow wood to dry completely to determine effectiveness. Wood should be returned to near its natural color. If wood is not as bright as you like, additional applications of blonder left on the wood a little longer will brighten the wood more. **Stubborn discoloration or thick stain buildup may require a second application of Strip & Brite. If you are stretching the pink gel in step 1 you may need to purchase additional packages of the blonder (step 2).**

EFFECTIVENESS: Strip & Brite is very effective at removing discoloration that is not an integral part of the wood. It will not remove products formulated with acrylic, latex, silicone, or urethane. Any stubborn stain that has permeated the wood such as blue stain on pine (a type of fungus) will not be removed by Strip & Brite as this type of discoloration goes completely through the wood, sometimes 2-6" deep. Blue stain appears as blue or dark gray streaks on a variety of soft wood species.

CLEANUP: Rinse all solutions and containers well with water. Strip & Brite gel from Step 1 may be used to clean dried Timber Pro stain off of tools, window glass, or vinyl trim and siding. Test first in inconspicuous area to make sure does not harm or discolor the surface behind the stain. Keep stripper away from metal or anodized aluminum windows and doors.

WARNING: Do not allow contact with skin or eyes. If contact occurs, rinse well with cool water. If stripper comes in contact with skin the citric acid rinse in step 2 will neutralize the stripper more quickly that water. Keep stripper and neutralizer off of surfaces not requiring stripping. Stripper will tarnish metal surfaces and could cloud or etch window glass.