





# **ITEMS YOU WILL NEED:**

- (1) Pair of Gloves
- (3) 3" Natural Brush for Stain
- (1) 2" Synthetic Brush for Topcoat
- (1) Staining Rag
- (2) Cleaning Rags
- Bottle of Mineral Spirits
- Stain
- Topcoat
- (2) Stir Sticks
- Step-by-Step Instructions

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Fypon recommends General Finishes 450 Exterior stain and top coat or Minwax Gel Stain and Minwax topcoat. If using Minwax Gel stain, it should be cut 2 - 1 with 2 parts stain and 1 part mineral spirits. Follow gel stain drying times found on the container.

# READ CAREFULLY BEFORE STAINING

# Before You Start DO:

- Apply stain when temperatures are between 50° and 90°F and relative humidity is below 80%. These are optimal conditions for staining.
- Apply stain to all exposed edges and ends of your stainable polyurethane product. All surfaces exposed to weather should be finished within 90 days of exposure.



## DO NOT:

- Apply stain or topcoat while dew is present.
- Apply stain in direct sunlight.
- Sand stainable polyurethane product.

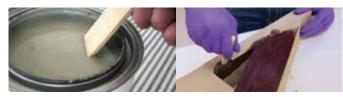
## **STEP 1: SURFACE PREPARATION**

Prior to staining, be sure to clean and prepare surfaces. Use a clean rag dampened with mineral spirits to wipe the entire surface, removing all contaminants.

**Pro Tip:** Compressed air can be used to blow dust off of deeply grooved products.

Refer to troubleshooting on the back of these instructions to repair any scratches, if necessary.

# **STEP 2: APPLY STAIN**



Stir the stain well with a stir stick. Improperly mixed stain will not dry correctly.

#### **APPLY THE STAIN**

Using your 3" natural brush apply the stain directly on the surface of the polyurethane product. Ensure that you work the stain into the grain.

Use the natural brush to even out the color, wiping the stain in the direction of the grain.

Use a brush to achieve the desired shade, wiping in the direction of the grain. For lighter shades, wait a few minutes, then rub off the excess stain. For darker applications allow stain to dry and then re-apply a second coat.

**Shutter Tip:** For best results, apply the stain to one section at a time as indicated:

**Beam Tip:** For best results, apply the stain to entire beam first, then proceed to step 3.

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Beams A. Start with one side	Shutters A. Stain main panels first B. Then battens	В
B. Then top C. Then the other side	C. Then edges	
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# **STEP 3: BLEND**



After product has been fully stained, then take a clean, dry short bristle brush and begin dry brushing and blending the stain in the direction of the grain. Every few strokes, remove the excess stain onto a clean rag. Continue this process until you have completed the entire product and it appears as any stained wood product. Pay special attention to any deep grooves and corners. Do Not let stain collect or pool in these areas. For lighter shades, remove more of the stain when dry brushing. For darker applications, repeat steps 2 and 3. Make sure first application is dry before applying second coat of stain.

**Tip:** To reduce bristle loss during the blending process, periodically tug on the bristles with a rag. This will help remove loose bristles so the strands do not fall off and stick to the product.

# **STEP 4: TEST FOR DRYNESS**



To determine if the stain is dry enough for applying topcoat, allow to dry for at least 2 - 3 hours (water-based stain) or 6-8 hours for gel stain before testing for dryness and applying topcoat.

Tip: To test for dryness, follow the instructions below:

Using a gloved hand touch an area of the piece that is hidden or near an edge. The stain is completely dry when nothing comes off on the glove. If it is not dry, test again every hour until dry.

# **STEP 5: APPLY THE PROTECTIVE TOPCOAT**



Stir the topcoat well with a stir stick.

To apply the topcoat, wet the tips of the 2" synthetic brush to apply a single, very thin first layer of topcoat.

Apply topcoat in a smooth and even motion. Do not use excessive brush strokes, as this may cause the topcoat to bubble or loosen the stain. If you find an area that is too light or dark with stain, apply a small amount of mineral spirits and wipe. Then reapply the stain and dry brush and blend area. After it is dry, top coat.

**Tip:** To reduce bristle loss during the topcoat process, periodically tug on the bristles with a rag. This will help remove loose bristles so the strands do not fall off and stick to the product.

**Tip:** Apply the topcoat in the same order in which you applied the stain in Step 2.

# **LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE**

 All exterior finishes are affected by exposure to sun, weathering, moisture and air pollutants. Typical durability of the topcoat is 3–5 years, but may be less, depending upon site-specific conditions. When the topcoat feels rough, it's time to reapply a new layer of topcoat.

#### DO NOT:

- Reuse topcoat more than 3 years old.
- Use topcoat that has been frozen.

## TROUBLESHOOTING BEFORE STAINING

#### **Light scratches or scuffs:**

- Prior to applying stain, lightly spray scratched area with a matching primer or smooth the area by buffing in the direction of the grain.
   A 3M™ Scotch-Brite™ pad is recommended for buffing.
- 2. Clean the repaired area and allow to dry before finishing.

#### **Deep scratches:**

- Fill the scratch with a wood crayon or scratch pencil. Body filler may also be used. Lightly sand. Grain detail may have to be manually etched into these fillers.
- Wipe off any excess filler with a cleaning rag dampened with mineral spirits.

## TROUBLESHOOTING AFTER STAINING

### Fine scratches:

- 1. Wipe the surface with mineral spirits.
- Apply the stain to the scratched area with a cotton swab or an artist brush.
- 3. Blend the stain until color match is achieved.
- 4. Wait until the stain is dry before applying topcoat.
- Apply a fine layer of topcoat over the repaired area with a clean cotton swab or small brush (approximately 1/2" width or less).

**Tip:** Fine scratches can be touched up by daubing stain onto the area even if topcoat has already been applied.

# **CAUTION – PLEASE READ!**

To avoid inhaling any fumes when using stains, paints or topcoats, it is extremely important to use adequate ventilation. Keep all materials out of the reach of children. Close all containers after use.

Please be sure to follow the stain manufacturers safety procedures









