

# **RESTORE 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant FAQs**

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## **FEATURES & BENEFITS**

**Q. What makes Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant different from other transparent stains and toners?**

**A.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is unique from other transparent stains and toners because it is 12X thicker than ordinary sealers and instead of penetrating the wood it forms a durable, longer lasting film on the surface of the wood. It also has superior UV inhibitors compared with other sealers so this coating can protect the wood from the negative effects of sunlight. Furniture can also be returned to the surface 48 hours after application is complete with Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant. Most semi-transparent stains require 72 hours before the furniture can be returned to the surface. It also is an algae and mildew resistant coating.

**Q. Why is it called 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant? What does the 12X stand for?**

**A.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is 12 times thicker than ordinary sealers. Most sealants penetrate into the wood and can wear off very easily. Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is a film forming coating that is more durable and will last longer.

**Q. Does the New Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant have any UV inhibitors?**

**A.** Yes. Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is made with high quality UV inhibitors. In fact, it is made with the same UV inhibitors used in sunscreen. They are able to better protect the wood from the negative effects of UV radiation than traditional sealers, extending the life of your deck.

**Q. Is Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant a tint base or is it available in pre-tinted colors. What colors are available?**

**A.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is a tint base that can be tinted at the counter to six colors; golden pine, cedar, redwood, hickory, kona, and weathered gray. It will provide the wood with a hint of color and a transparent finish where most of the wood grain will show through.

**Q. What is the difference between a Semi-Transparent Stain and a Transparent Stain or a Toner?**

**A.** The biggest difference between a semi-transparent stain and a transparent stain or toner is the opacity. Transparent stains and toners impart very little pigment on the wood. The finish will look nearly transparent with a hint of color and most of the grain will show though. The semi-transparent stain has more pigment in it than the transparent stain or toner. It will impart more color onto the wood than the transparent stain or toner will and less of the grain of the wood will show through. Most semi-transparent stains, transparent stains, and toners are penetrating stains, however the Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is unique in that it is a film forming coating that is 12X thicker than ordinary sealers.

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## **WHERE TO USE**

**Q. What surfaces can I apply Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant to?**

**A. Wood:** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant should only be applied on structurally sound wood surfaces.

**NOT FOR USE ON:** Concrete, composite decking, fiberglass, tile, and metal surfaces. These surfaces will not allow for proper adhesion. Do not use on driveways, garages, or other areas with vehicular traffic.

**Q. Can I use Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant on concrete surfaces?**

**A. No.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is not for use on any concrete surfaces. Do not use on driveways, garages, or other areas with vehicular traffic.

**Q. Can I use Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant on my composite decking material?**

**A. No.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant cannot be used on composite decking material.

**Q. Can Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant be used on vertical surfaces?**

**A. Yes.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant can be used on both vertical and horizontal surfaces.

## **PREPARATION ON WOOD**

**Q. Do I need to prepare my deck before applying Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant?**

**A. YES! REGARDLESS OF AGE OR SURFACE CONDITION, FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS PREPARATION METHOD WILL RESULT IN POOR ADHESION AND POSSIBLE COATING FAILURE. NEW WOOD DECKS NEED TO WEATHER AT LEAST SIX MONTHS BEFORE APPLICATION.**

### **PREPARATION WITH RESTORE DECK STRIPPER**

#### **Step 1 – Remove existing Stain/Sealer:**

Previously applied coatings need to be removed for two very important reasons; first stains do not adhere well to one another and second the old finish will block the new finish from penetrating the wood. If the old stain or sealant is peeling, it will pull your new coating up as well. The new topcoat will not lock down and seal the old topcoat. Even if you have not recoated your deck in many years and it looks like there is no stain or sealant left on the deck, you must complete this step. Previously applied stains and sealants may be present on the deck and are not always visible and they will prevent the new topcoat from properly adhering to the wood.

Strip the surface using a deck brush and the Restore Deck Stripper. Apply the deck stripper to the deck and scrub it into the wood with a deck brush. Let it sit for 15 minutes, then power wash it off completely. Follow all of the instruction on the back of the Restore Deck Stripper label before

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proceeding. Next sand the entire deck using 50 or 60 grit sand paper. This will open the pores of the wood and create a textured surface that is easier for the coating to adhere to.

### **Step 2 – Clean:**

Clean the surface using a deck brush and the Restore Deck & Concrete Cleaner. The surface must be completely clean and free of dirt, grease, mildew and organic growth to ensure product bonding and adhesion. For best results use a pressure washer, in addition to the Restore Deck & Concrete Cleaner, to remove embedded dirt and grime. (Use at a low setting 500-1200 PSI. Do not use high pressure as it may harm the wood.) For mildew and other organic growth use a diluted solution of household bleach (3 parts water to 1 part bleach) applied to the surface before cleaning. Loose paint needs to be scraped and removed from the surface.

### **Step 3 – Test Surface for Application:**

AFTER CLEANING THE SURFACE YOU MUST CONDUCT A SPLASH TEST TO ASSURE THE OLD COATING IS FULLY REMOVED FOR PROPER ADHESION OF THE NEW TOPCOAT. PREVIOUSLY APPLIED SEALERS may be present on the deck and are not always visible. Conduct a splash test by sprinkling water on multiple areas of the surface. Check at least 4 areas, or more for larger areas. Be sure to check both high traffic areas such as walkways and non-traffic areas. If the water absorbs rapidly into the surface, the surface is ready to be coated. If the water beads, puddles or is not absorbed, the surface is sealed and not ready to coat. If any part of the surface is not absorbing the water, use the Restore Deck Stripper and Sand using 50 or 60 grit sand paper again in that section. Clean again with a brush and Restore Deck & Concrete Cleaner and conduct the splash test again. Continue this process until the water is absorbed by the wood in all test areas. Let the surface dry completely before application. Failure to follow this process will result in poor adhesion and possible coating failure.

### **Step 4 – Light Repairs:**

Raised nail heads and/or screws should be secured using a hammer or a screwdriver. Remove loose splinters and replace severely damaged or rotting boards. Fill larger cracks using RESTORE CRACK FILLER or similar acrylic, non-silicone filler. Allow to dry.

### **Q. Can I use the Restore Deck Start Wood Primer to prepare my surface before I use the Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant?**

**A.** NO. The Restore Deck Start Wood Primer can only be used with solid colored stains.

### **Q. What special preparation is required for new pressure treated wood?**

**A.** New wood may be wet with chemicals or have mill glaze from the manufacturing process. New wood should age for a minimum of 6 months before applying Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant. The lumber must dry completely before applying the product to prevent peeling of the coating. The surface must also be properly cleaned and prepared using Restore Deck & Concrete Cleaner to remove all foreign material and mill glaze prior to application. Follow the PREPARATION instructions on the label to be sure the Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant adheres properly to the wood.

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## **Q. Can Restore be applied directly over a previously painted surface?**

**A.** NO. The surface needs to be properly prepared first using the Restore Deck Stripper and 50 or 60 grit sandpaper. Follow the Preparation Instructions on the labels of the Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant can and the Restore Deck Stripper container. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS PREPARATION METHOD WILL RESULT IN POOR ADHESION AND POSSIBLE COATING FAILURE.

## **Q. Can Restore be applied directly over clear wood sealers such as Thompson Water-Seal?**

**A.** NO. Wood sealers often contain paraffin, which prevents paint or coatings from adhering to the wood. The surface needs to be properly prepared first using the Restore Deck Stripper and 50 or 60 grit sandpaper. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS PREPARATION METHOD WILL RESULT IN POOR ADHESION AND POSSIBLE COATING FAILURE.

## **Q. What do I do about nail heads and screws?**

**A.** Raised nail heads and/or screws should be secured using a hammer or screwdriver.

## **Q. I have some deck boards that are rotten. How should I deal with this?**

**A.** First you must remove and replace any rotten wood with new deck boards. Clean the deck boards thoroughly with the Restore Deck & Concrete Cleaner. Conduct a splash test to make sure the water absorbs completely on the new boards before coating.

## **Q. I have large cracks and nail holes in my deck. How should I deal with this?**

**A.** Large cracks and nail holes can be filled with Restore Crack Filler prior to application.

## **APPLICATION**

### **Q. What is the best way to apply Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant?**

**A.** ONE COAT OF RESTORE 12X TRANSPARENT STAIN & SEALANT IS REQUIRED. ONLY APPLY RESTORE 12X TRANSPARENT STAIN & SEALANT WHEN THE AMBIENT TEMPERATURE WILL BE BETWEEN 50-90 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT DURING APPLICATION AND FOR AT LEAST 6 HOURS AFTER APPLICATION.

**DO NOT APPLY IF RAIN IS EXPECTED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF APPLICATION.**

**TRIM AND VERTICAL SURFACES:** Before applying Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant to the horizontal deck, first coat vertical surfaces such as deck posts, railings, or balusters. Cut in around edges with a brush and coat visible areas between deck boards.

**STEP 1:** Thoroughly stir material before and during the project. When using more than one container, combine all containers to ensure color consistency.

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**STEP 2:** Using either a short nap stain pad or synthetic paint brush saturate and apply generously in a consistent pattern. Work to a wet edge at all times. Avoid rolling back into coated areas where drying has begun.

**STEP 3:** Allow to dry 24 hours before light foot traffic and 48 hours before replacing furniture. If surface is tacky or soft, allow extended drying time before putting furniture or other heavy objects back in place.

Full cure to a hard finish will take approximately 7 days.

**Q. How many coats of Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant do I need to apply?**

**A.** ONE. Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant was developed so that you only need to apply one coat to your surface to have a finished look. Applying more than one coat may result in the coating not looking transparent.

**Q. What is the coverage of Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant?**

**A.** One, 1-gallon can of Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant will cover up to 250 square feet with one coat.

**Q. Can I apply Restore when it is Cold/Hot outside?**

**A.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant should only be applied when the temperature is between 50 and 90 degrees Fahrenheit during application and for at least 6 hours after application. Do not apply if the temperature will drop below 50 degrees or go above 90 degrees Fahrenheit anytime for 6 hours after application.

**Q. The instructions say the coating should be applied when no rain is imminent. I live in a rainy climate where rain is always imminent. Can I still apply Restore?**

**A.** Yes. It is imperative that the coating be allowed to dry and cure for 24 hours before it is rained on. We recommend that you secure a large tarp over the area to be coated to protect the surface from rain and moisture.

**Q. I plan to use more than one can of Restore to coat my patio/deck – how can I be sure that the color is exactly the same in each?**

**A.** If multiple cans are used they should be mixed together to ensure consistency in color.

**Q. Can I add water to Restore to thin it?**

**A.** NO.

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**Q. My deck surface is still “tacky” and soft. What should I do?**

**A.** Extend the drying time. Drying times may vary depending on the temperature and humidity. Dry times listed are based off the optimal application temperature of 70 degrees. Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant should not be applied if temperatures are below 50 degrees and above 90 degrees during application and if temperatures will drop below 50 degrees or go above 90 degrees for at least 6 hours after application.

**Q. How long before furniture can be placed on the deck after the deck has been coated?**

**A.** 48 hours. We recommend that deck furniture have rubber tipped legs to avoid scraping the deck surface. Avoid dragging furniture on the Restore coated surface. It will abrade the surface and wear down the coating in the areas where dragging has occurred.

## **CLEAN UP, STORAGE & DISPOSAL**

**Q. How do I clean up after application?**

**A.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant is a water based product that will clean up with soap and water. For best results clean up should be done before the product dries. Cover the areas around spindles and walls to avoid splattering during the application process.

**Q. What do I do with leftover paint? How do I dispose of leftover paint?**

**A.** If you have any leftover paint, please make sure you secure the lid tightly and store in a room temperature environment. It is always good to keep some extra product for any future touch ups. If you rather not keep leftover paint then the best course of action is to purchase some paint hardener. This will solidify the product and then you can safely dispose in your trash.

## **MAINTENANCE**

**Q. How do I maintain my newly coated surface?**

**A.** Basic maintenance consists of sweeping or blowing clean the surface from dirt, leaves, and other debris. Clean the surface seasonally and when necessary with Restore Deck & Concrete Cleaner, a brush and a water hose.

**DO NOT USE A PRESSURE WASHER**

**Remove snow by using a PLASTIC SHOVEL (DO NOT USE A METAL SHOVEL OR A SNOW BLOWER).**

**DO NOT USE SALT. If salt gets onto the coated surface remove immediately.**

**Q. Can I use my barbeque on my deck?**

**A.** Yes, you can barbeque on your deck. Take care to avoid any hot ashes or coals on the deck surface. If oil or soot collects on the deck surface, it may discolor. Clean the oil and soot with household cleaners, be sure those cleaners do not have a high concentration of alcohol, acid and base or bleach.

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### **Q. Can I put planters on my deck?**

**A.** Yes, you may put planters on your deck. To avoid discoloring or damaging the Restore coated surface, planters must be up off the surface. Plant stands, rollers, or glass blocks can be used to lift planters and pots up off of the deck surface. Avoid puddles of water under planters or hanging baskets.

### **Q. Will Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant become hot in the sun?**

**A.** Yes. Just like any painted surface, Restore will become hot when exposed to the sun. Lighter colors reflect light, while darker colors attract and absorb it.

## **RESTORE TROUBLESHOOTING**

### **Q. What is the warranty?**

**A.** Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant has a Limited Warranty. Rust-Oleum Corporation guarantees product performance for the product in this can only when applied according to the label directions. You will receive as your exclusive remedy either a refund of the original purchase price or replacement with a product of equal value. We do not guarantee the product against factors beyond our control, such as damage to the product by others, poor condition of the substrate, structural defects, improper application, etc. We will not be responsible for labor or the cost of labor for removal or application of any product, or replacement of any wood structure.

### **40. How can I remove Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant?**

To remove Restore 12X Transparent Stain & Sealant completely you can use Restore Deck Stripper or a stripper with sodium hydroxide.

#### **WARNING:**

**DELAYED EFFECTS FROM LONG-TERM OVEREXPOSURE.** Abrading or sanding of the dry film may release crystalline silica, which has been shown to cause lung damage and cancer under long-term exposure.

**CAUTIONS: CONTAINS CRYSTALLINE SILICA.** Adequate ventilation with air flow away from the user is required when sanding or abrading the dried film. If adequate ventilation cannot be provided, wear an approved particulate respirator (NIOSH-approved). Follow respirator manufacturer's directions for respirator use.