

# Natural Tones Siding Restaining Guide

## Procedure for Applying Natural Tones Stain

Want to freshen up your Maibec Natural tones siding? Before you begin, please note the following:

- Maibec highly recommends using a professional to do the job.
- Obtaining the Natural tones finish requires the application of two different stains: an initial coat of solid stain followed by a second coat of semi-transparent stain.
- These stains (solid and semi-transparent) are exclusive to Maibec retailers and must be purchased directly from them; they are not available in inventory in retail stores. You must provide to your Maibec retailer your proof of purchase indicating which Natural tones siding was purchased. The retailers will order the right product from Maibec.
- The stains used to make our Natural tones require a more rigorous method of application to achieve a uniform finish with no visible overlapping. As this method takes longer and requires more expertise than conventional staining, we strongly recommend that Natural tones siding be restained by professional painters.
- Restaining horizontal siding requires the use of scaffolding or a bucket truck. Do not use a ladder to do the work, the results will not be satisfactory because of the stain overlap.
- Always begin by restaining a less visible wall so that any initial errors you may make won't be as noticeable.

This application guide provides detailed information on how to recreate the rich, warm finish of our Natural tones. However, please note that Maibec cannot be held responsible for the final result as it has no control over the conditions under which the work was performed or how the stain was applied.

## 1. PREPARING THE SURFACE

Dirt is ever-present around a building. It is important that the surface to be restained is first cleaned of all dirt and loose particles.

Although stains on window sills sometimes look like mould, they are often simply accumulated dirt caused by different organic or inorganic substances.

### **WARNING!**

- **DO NOT USE** harsh or aggressive detergents containing abrasives.
- **DO NOT USE** a high-pressure washer to clean siding.
- **DO NOT USE** products containing acid, ammonia, bleach, etc.

### REMOVE DIRT AS FOLLOWS:

- Clean the siding with a gentle spray of water from a low pressure hose (less than 100 psi). Only clean siding that is soiled.
- If a spray of water does not remove the dirt, gently scrub the surface using **ONLY** a soft brush (such as those used to clean car bodies) and a mild non-abrasive laundry or dishwasher detergent, diluted to 1/3 cup of detergent for 3 litres of water. Regular dishwashing soap is not recommended as it produces foam.
- Profusely and gently rinse the siding with a low pressure hose (less than 100 psi).
- If the dirt still remains, it may be of chemical origin (roofing product, pollution, etc.). A specific cleaning product may be required. Consult Maibec for more details.

After cleaning the siding, wait at least 2 to 3 days before restaining to allow the wood to sufficiently dry. (Wood should have a maximum moisture content of 15%.)

## 2. APPLICATION CONDITIONS

### REQUIRED TEMPERATURE

For optimum adhesion, restaining should only be done during a dry, rain-free period when temperatures remain above 10°C (50°F) and below 25°C (77°F). Never stain a wall while it is exposed to direct sunlight or just exposed to the sun and whose surface exceeds 25°C (77°F). A wall that is too hot will dry the stain too quickly.

Do not restain within 48 to 72 hours (depending on the humidity level) before rain, or within 48 hours after rain. Allow the first coat to dry 24 hours before applying the second coat.

### STORING THE STAIN

Stain should always be kept at room temperature (21°C or 70°F) in a dry location away from direct sunlight.

### PREPARING THE STAIN

If using a mechanical mixer, mix the stain for 3-4 minutes. If mixing it manually, mix the stain for 5-7 minutes using a wood spatula. Scrape the sides and bottom of the can to blend thoroughly. The stain formulation is complete; do not add anything.

### APPLICATORS

Brush application is the only way to reproduce as closely as possible the desired colour and to limit visible overlapping. Use a large nylon, polyester or synthetic brush (4" or larger) with firm bristles intended for water-based stains.

## 3. APPLICATION PATTERNS

For a uniform application with no visible overlapping, the two coats of stain must be applied as follows:

### 1ST COAT: SOLID STAIN

- Start the application of the stain at the top of the wall.
- Apply a sufficient and consistent amount of stain to a small section at a time. Always follow the direction of the boards, and work on only 2 or 3 boards at a time.
- Brush to even out the stain. Avoid staining a too large surface before brushing. Ensure the stain thoroughly penetrates the boards.
- Finish by stretching out the stain linearly.
- Allow the first coat of stain to dry for at least 24 hours before applying the second coat.
- Pay particular attention to horizontal and vertical interlocking joints.



PHOTO 1 - APPLYING THE FIRST COAT (SOLID STAIN) ON HORIZONTAL SIDING.

### HORIZONTALLY INSTALLED SIDING

For a uniform application with no visible overlapping, always apply the stain horizontally in a straight line (left and right; never up and down). Stain from one end of the board to the other, keeping a **wet edge** at all times.

The use of scaffolding is required to properly apply stain according to the recommended pattern.

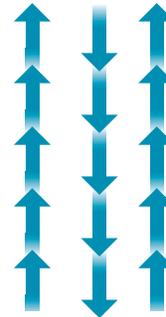


A ladder may be needed to reach more restricted spaces.

3. Application patterns (continued)

VERTICALLY INSTALLED SIDING

- Always apply the stain vertically in a straight line (up and down) to avoid overlapping in the middle of boards. Work on only 2 or 3 boards at a time, and keep a wet edge at all times.
- If several painters will be working on the project, they must agree on a method of overlapping to ensure there is always a wet edge. [PHOTO 2]
- If the stain dries quickly, stain a smaller section of the wall to ensure a **wet edge**.



**2ND COAT: SEMI-TRANSPARENT STAIN**

- The first coat of stain should be left to dry for at least 24 hours before applying the second coat.
- Start by testing a hidden section of the wall or use a test board that has been already been given an initial coat of solid stain. Once you have mastered the technique, begin by applying the second coat of stain on a less visible wall so that any initial errors you may make won't be as noticeable.
- Start the application of the stain at the top of the wall.
- Apply the semi-transparent stain with a brush, working on a small section at a time. Always follow the direction of the boards, and work on only 2 or 3 boards at a time. Apply a sufficient and consistent amount of stain to each board. [PHOTO 3]
- Brush to even out the stain. Avoid staining a too large surface before brushing.



PHOTO 2 - KEEP A WET EDGE AT ALL TIMES.



PHOTO 3 - APPLY THE 2ND COAT EQUALLY AND BRUSH TO EVEN OUT THE STAIN.

Follow the same application pattern as for the first coat (solid stain). See the previous section for more details. Be sure to:

- Always apply stain in the direction of the board.
- Always keep a wet edge to continue staining the same board.



**WARNING! ALWAYS FINISH THE BOARD YOU ARE RESTAINING BEFORE STOPPING WORK (FOR BREAKS, MEALS, ETC.). AVOID OVERLAPPING ONTO ADJACENT BOARDS. STAINING OVER DRIED STAIN WILL LEAVE NOTICEABLE MARKS.**

The Natural tones siding has regained its rich, warm finish. [PHOTO 4]



PHOTO 4 - FINISHED APPLICATION OF THE 2 COATS.

## 4. STAIN COVERAGE

3.7 litres (1 US gallon) of water-based stain will cover approximately 25 m<sup>2</sup> to 28 m<sup>2</sup> (250 ft<sup>2</sup> to 300 ft<sup>2</sup>) on a previously-stained surface.

Questions? Please contact our technical service toll-free at 1 800 363-1930.