



# STEP I: SURFACE PREPARATION

## Prepare and Restore

### I. Wood Cleaners & Coating Preparation Products

#### Option 1: *Powder Concentrate*

### Wolman® DeckBrite™ Wood Cleaner & Coating Prep

**Where to Use:** Ideal for **pressure-treated lumber**, including Pine, Hemlock, and Fir, **plastic/wood composites** and **weathered Cedar and Redwood**. Also suitable for North American hardwoods, such as Poplar, Hickory, etc.



**Product Type:** Powder Concentrate. Mix 1 part *DeckBrite* with 4 parts water.

**Purpose:** Cleans and prepares wood for coating. Enables the proper penetration/adhesion of protective water sealers and pigmented stains:

- **On Uncoated, New Wood:** Prepares the surface by opening wood pores and eliminating surface barriers.
- **On Uncoated, Weathered Wood:** Restores a clean, bright, natural look by removing ground-in dirt, mildew and algae stains.
- **On Previously Sealed, Weathered Wood:** Removes old, residual, clear water repellents/water sealers and weathered, lightly pigmented finishes.

#### **What Makes *DeckBrite* Unique?**

*DeckBrite's* active ingredient, sodium percarbonate, uses **oxygen bleach** to loosen and lift the old, degraded surface layer without dissolving the wood structure or leaving behind a washed-out look, like **chlorine bleach** can. It cleans and brightens without softening and damaging the wood lignin, so a sound coating surface is maintained. And, when diluted in a water solution, this oxygen bleach product is virtually harmless to handle and use around plant life, making *DeckBrite* powder concentrate the **safest** wood cleaning product choice commercially available. It is non-toxic, non-acidic and chlorine free!

Another benefit of sodium percarbonate is the ability to see it working! After only 10 minutes, oxygen-activated *DeckBrite's* fast-acting foaming action attacks and oxidizes away organic matter, and loosens and lifts the top surface layer of weathered wood, so it can be easily rinsed away with a garden hose or pressure washer. Ground-in dirt, UV-degraded gray wood fibers, and ugly stains from mold, mildew, and other fungi growth are quickly eliminated. Wood is restored to its bright, clean, natural look. And, unlike other "oxygen-activated" products for laundry and carpet cleaning, *DeckBrite* for wood is 99% + active, making this "ultra-oxidizer" the strongest product of its kind.





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### Prepare and Restore

#### Why was this Product Developed?

*Wolman DeckBrite* was launched in 1986, and since that time, it has been the leading powder concentrate wood cleaner on the market. Prior to its introduction, most people cleaned their decks with household bleach or detergents, but these materials were unsatisfactory in restoring a natural appearance to weathered wood, and they were difficult to work with. Chlorine bleach especially posed potential safety risks to users. *Thus, there was a real need for a safe, easy-to-use, and truly effective deck brightening/restoring product.*

*Wolman DeckBrite* answered this need. In 1987, it was named a “Top 100 Invention of the Year” by Popular Mechanics magazine, was immediately accepted by retailers and end-users, and continues to be the leading product of its kind. Several imitators have come and gone but none have surpassed *DeckBrite’s* outstanding performance and ease of use. For example, only *DeckBrite* features a blue dye that helps users know when the powder is fully dissolved. Over the years, the formula has also been improved to provide even greater brightening power and a thicker foam that clings to vertical surfaces, making the product ideal for cleaning/restoring wood siding and fencing as well as decks.

#### Key Performance Features:

- Prepares **new wood surfaces for finishing by opening wood pores** for better coating penetration and performance.
- **Cleans and brightens weathered wood.** Restores the natural, like-new appearance by removing:
  - UV-damaged, gray wood fibers
  - ground-in dirt
  - stains from mildew and algae
- **Removes invisible traces of old water repellent from weathered, previously sealed wood.**
- **Safe-to-use, Oxygen bleach-based formula** – unlike chlorine bleach, will not harm plant life, damage wood’s cell structure (wood lignin) or leave a bleached-out look.
- **Fast-acting, foaming action** – loosens and lifts dirt, stains and discoloration from decks and other wood surfaces in just 10 minutes or less.



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### Prepare and Restore

#### Other Important Features:

- Clings to vertical surfaces for more effective cleaning of deck spindles, posts, railings and lattice, fences and siding.
- Non-toxic, non-acidic, 100% biodegradable – safest cleaning product to handle and use near grass, plants or shrubs.
- Easy-to-use – just mix, spray and power-wash away.
- Compatible with most coatings and surrounding surfaces: plastic, aluminum, glass, metal, concrete and caulked surfaces.

#### Usage Guidelines:

**Where to Use:** Decks, fences, siding, shakes and shingles, boat docks, boardwalks, landscape timbers, outdoor furniture and décor, gazebos and arbors, storage sheds, play equipment/gym sets and more.

#### How to Use:

**Application Methods:** For quick application, use airless sprayer or pump-style sprayer. Also can be applied by mop, roller or brush.

**Coats Required:** One (1) application is generally sufficient. Heavily weathered, extremely dirty or badly stained areas may need a second application.

**Exposure Time:** 10 minutes per application.

**Coverage Per Gallon:** Approximately 150 sq. ft., depending on wood age and species, surface porosity and method of application.

#### Application Instructions:

**Before You Start:** Replace rotted, extremely weathered or warped boards. Sweep surface free of any loose dirt and debris. If the surface is extremely dry or in direct, hot sunlight, dampen with fresh water to cool.

**Weather Conditions:** Use product when outside air temperature is between 40° F and 90° F.

**Product Preparation:** Based on mixing directions below, combine *DeckBrite* powder with warm water to make cleaning solution. (Lukewarm tap water will help powder dissolve more quickly). Each gallon of solution cleans approximately 150 sq. ft., depending on wood age, species, surface porosity and application method.



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## Prepare and Restore

### Application Steps:

#### Step 1 – Mix:

- Mix 1 part powder concentrate with 4 parts water, or  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup powder per 1 gallon water. Solution will foam and appear bright blue.
- Stir occasionally for 3-5 minutes, or until blue color disappears, which indicates powder is completely dissolved and solution is ready to use.
- Use within 6 hours of mixing. Do not mix with any other products.

#### Step 2 – Apply:

- Pre-wet surface with fresh water.
- Working on 5-10 boards (20 sq. ft.) at a time, apply solution. On vertical surfaces, work from the bottom to the top of the structure.
- Let solution work 5-10 minutes. Re-wet periodically if solution dries prematurely.

#### Step 3 – Brush or Pressure Wash:

- Using moderate pressure, **briefly scrub** surface with the *Wolman WoodWorx Deck Brush* or other short-bristle broom or brush,

**OR**

**Pressure wash**, using a 40° tip and 1,500-2,500 PSI for pressure-treated wood and hardwood, 500-1,000 PSI for Cedar and Redwood. Move lengthwise with boards to avoid cut marks across grain.

**Either technique** helps ensure old surface is entirely removed.

#### Step 4 – Rinse:

- If pressure washing is not employed, **after scrubbing, rinse thoroughly with a garden hose**, using the highest pressure nozzle setting available.
- On a vertical surface, continually rinse brightened areas to avoid streaking.
- Rinse any wood fibers off surrounding surfaces immediately.

**Repeat Steps 2-4** on each 5-10 board section (20 sq. ft.) until entire surface has been cleaned. **When finished, repeat the SPLASH TEST to confirm water absorption.** Rinse surrounding grass and plants thoroughly. When dry, wood surface should appear clean, bright and free of mildew and algae stains.

**Dry Time:** After cleaning, let wood surface dry to the touch before applying a water-base finish. See “Before You Start” label directions on water base coating label for further guidelines. If applying an oil base finish, wait at least 24 hours to allow wood to dry out thoroughly.

**Clean Up:** Clean tools and equipment after use with water.

**Storage:** Store unused powder in the closed, original labeled container and away from combustible materials. **Do Not** store prepared solution in airtight containers to avoid oxygen pressure buildup.

### Other Technical Data and Precautions:

See Technical Data Sheet and container labeling for further information.