

# Exterior Timber Restoration

Cleaning Timber Previously Coated with  
Urethane/Opaque Finishes

## Introduction

Urethane/opaque finishes can be removed in a number of ways. The combinations of paint types (solvent/water borne) and base materials will have a major influence on the effort and method required to remove the coating. Solvent borne coatings, because of their harder surface, generally respond well to sanding, whereas softer waterborne coatings tend to clog the sandpaper. If you are unsure of the method to use, you should carry out a test to determine the best method, remembering to select a test area which is not in an obvious place.

## Directions

### Sanding Method:

- Select a grit of sandpaper that is heavy enough to tear through the urethane/opaque finish. Take care not to damage the timber surface below.
- Do not use fine grit sandpaper as this will only polish the surface of the urethane/opaque finish.
- Change the sandpaper regularly. Do not use clogged sandpaper.
- After all the urethane/opaque finish has been removed, using medium to heavy grit sandpaper, inspect the timber for watermarking, staining and discolouration. Should these be a problem they can normally be removed by carrying out a timber restoration program using **Jac Jay Timber Revitaliser** and **Jac Jay Oxalic Acid**. See **Exterior Timber Restoration section on Cleaning Silvered and Weathered Timber in the Product and Application Guide**.
- If a timber restoration process has been carried out, leave the timber to dry for approximately 5-6 days in ideal drying conditions. Longer may be required.
- Finish sanding using a light grit sandpaper.
- Always sand along the grain and never across; sand the whole area evenly to avoid sanding patches. Round all edges to at least a 3mm round. Remove all sanding dust.
- There is a large range of mechanical sanding machines available from belt sanders to mouse sanders. Take care to select the correct type of sander for use on the area that is being cleaned as this will ensure more efficient use of your time.
- Hand sanding is an important part of the final preparation or for the removal of old coatings from delicate pieces of furniture etc., but is impractical for sanding large areas.
- When undertaking any work always follow good trade, health and safety practices.

## Recoating

- See **Recoating of Previously Coated Surfaces** section of the Product and Application Guide.

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## Directions

### Chemical Stripping:

- Chemical stripping will cause the urethane/opaque finish to soften which will allow you to remove it by scraping.
- There are many types of strippers from fast acting to slow acting, alkaline to organic solvent type, flammable and non-flammable. Please choose the stripper that best suits the job at hand.
- When using strippers follow all manufacturer's recommendations and avoid contact with skin and eyes.
- When scraping always use the correct tools designed for the job. Be careful not to damage the timber below.
- Apply the stripper liberally and leave for the coating to soften.
- Scrape off softened coating, taking care not to create a mess. Place all scraping into a bucket for correct disposal.
- Neutralise chemical stripper as per manufacturer's recommendations. Remove all residues.
- Leave to dry and check that all products have been removed. If not, re-treat areas as above.
- After all the urethane/opaque finish has been removed using the chemical stripping method, inspect the timber for watermarking, staining and discolouration. Should these be a problem they can normally be removed by carrying out a timber restoration program using **Jac Jay Timber Revitaliser** and **Jac Jay Oxalic Acid**. See **Exterior Timber Restoration** section of the Product and Application Guide.
- If a timber restoration process has been carried out leave the timber to dry for approximately 5-6 days in ideal drying conditions. Longer may be required.
- Sand all timber with the appropriate grit of sandpaper. Sand area twice, first using a medium grit sandpaper followed by a finishing sand using a fine grit sandpaper, depending on the condition of the timber.
- Always sand along the grain and never across; sand the whole area evenly to avoid sanding patches. Round all edges to at least a 3mm round. Remove all sanding dust.
- There is a large range of mechanical sanding machines available from belt sanders to mouse sanders. Take care to select the correct type of sander for use on the area that is being cleaned as this will ensure more efficient use of your time.
- Hand sanding is an important part of the final preparation or for the removal of old coatings from delicate pieces of furniture etc., but is impractical for sanding large areas.
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## Recoating

- See **Recoating of Previously Coated Surfaces** section of the Product and Application Guide.

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## Please Note

- Every care is taken to ensure that the information provided in this data sheet is accurate. Jac Jay Limited is unable to guarantee results as it has no control over the conditions under which products are applied, the substrate or the application. The customer has to determine the suitability of the delivered products or information for its intended purpose.