

# The Stain

## Your Record

To determine how much stain you will need, measure the total area by the formulas below. Then consult your Porter Paints store or dealer as to how much stain you'll need. This will vary, depending on whether you are working on rough or smooth surface, new wood or re-coat.



**Area below the roofline** perimeter x height  
(A+B+A+B) x C

**Gables** height of peak x 1/2 length of base  
D x 1/2 A

**Trim** (Doors and window frames)  
If trim is to be the same stain as the siding, you simply use the total siding area figure. If the trim is to be a different stain, figure the area of windows and doors separately and deduct from the siding area.

**Shutters** Measure the total area and add to siding or trim area.

## RECORD

	Porter Paints Stain No.	Color	Amount
Siding			
Trim			
Shutters			

# Application

There is a Porter Paints stain for any job. It is very important that you select the proper stain for *your* job for the effect you wish to achieve and for the surface condition.

## Semi-transparent Stains

enhance the *natural grain* of the wood while adding a pleasing and uniform color effect. They can be applied to new wood or to previously stained wood that is well-weathered. Colors are in a range of natural wood tones and just one coat will give a rich effect.

## Solid Color Stains

are rich in pigment, designed to reveal the *texture* of the wood while obscuring the grain and previous color, if any. Solid color stains minimize the uneven color and texture variations in different types of wood. They are designed for one-coat application over new wood or wood that has been previously stained or painted.

There are two types of solid color stains: oil based and latex. They have the same rich colors. Both are thick and full-bodied, with very little settling. (The pigment stays in solution and does not cake hard in the bottom of the can.)

The advantages of the oil based stain are that it can be applied at lower temperatures and over less perfect areas, such as slightly chalky surfaces.

The advantages of the latex stain are that it is faster drying, can be applied over a damp surface, and is easily cleaned up with water. (In fact, in hot, windy weather, surfaces may be dampened for easier application of latex stains.) Latex stain also has excellent color retention and fade resistance.

## Horizontal Surfaces,

such as decks and railings, should not be stained with solid color stains. If a semi-transparent effect is desired, use a Porter Penetrating Finish.

*Choose one of the four basic Porter Paints stains for the best results on your job:*

**Porter Paints Exterior Rustic Stain  
Semi-transparent**

**Porter Paints Solid Color Stain**

**Porter Paints Latex Solid Color Stain**

**Porter Paints Penetrating Finish**

*Of course, always READ THE LABEL DIRECTIONS for the specific product you are using! Following are some general guidelines.*

## A Brush is Best!

You can do a better job of working the stain into the wood to achieve a uniform color effect. With semi-transparent and oil based solid color stains, a natural bristle brush is preferred, but a synthetic brush may be used. ONLY a synthetic bristle brush should be used with a latex stain, as the water in latex takes the oils out of natural bristles and they become unmanageable.

## Rollers and Sprays

may also be used, but you may find it more difficult to achieve a uniform color effect. When spraying, try to get an adequate coat while avoiding runs and sags, and finish off by back-rolling the surface with a roller.

## Maintain a "Wet Edge"

to prevent lap marks. (A wet stroke applied over an already dry area will leave a lap mark, so always stroke *into a wet area*.) Maintaining a wet edge is even more important in staining than in painting, as lap marks are more prominent.



## Stir!

Even though the stain was thoroughly mixed by the "shaker" in the store, stir again and often during application, to maintain an even color.

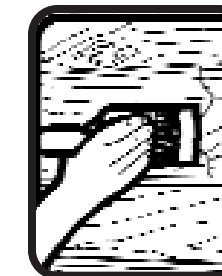
## Vertical Siding

Begin at the top and work down continuously to the bottom. Do only as many boards at a time as you can handle staining non-stop top to bottom.



## Horizontal Siding

Begin at one edge and work continuously across to the end of the board. Do only as many boards at one time as you can manage without stopping, to avoid laps. Start with the siding at the top, and work to the bottom.



## Check List

- Porter stain
- Porter thinner or turpentine
- Drop cloths
- "Paint pot" and hook
- Ladder
- Masking tape
- Clean-up cloths
- 3" or 4" wall brush
- 1 1/2" sash brush
- Roller and tray
- Roller cover
- Spray
- Detergent
- Soilax
- Super Waxoff
- Mildew remover
- Sponge
- Brush
- Water bucket
- Sandpaper
- Paint Scraper
- Colored caulking
- Glaze
- Hammer and nails
- Putty knife

# Exterior Staining



We Earn Our Stripes Every Day!™

## The Three Steps To Successful Exterior Staining

The exceptionally handsome effect of wood that has been finished with a Porter Paints exterior stain is not difficult to achieve. However, the success of your staining job will depend on three factors:



The siding on your house, deck, porch, fence, or outdoor furniture all can be greatly enhanced with the rich, weathered look of stain, if you give serious attention to these three stages of the work. They are even more critical to a successful staining job than they are to painting.

*First, some general information for those unfamiliar with stains.*

### Semi-transparent vs. Solid Color Stain

Both types of stain penetrate and coat the fibers of wood. Both can be tinted to different colors. There are special advantages to each type and care should be taken to select the proper one for your job.

### How Long Does a Stain Last?

The distinctive beauty of stained wood is not without its disadvantage. Stains simply do not offer the protection provided by paint, nor do they last as long. Expect to re-stain your wood surface sooner than you would have to re-coat with paint.

### What can be Stained?

Siding, shingles, shakes, trim, fences, porches, decks, outdoor furniture. Rough-sawn or smooth-planed wood. New, bare, or previously stained wood.

Solid color stains should not be used for horizontal surfaces such as decks and floors (or even hand rails) because the stain is quickly worn away by foot traffic. The stain may also be tracked into other areas. If a semi-transparent effect is desired, use Porter Penetrating Finish, which is specially formulated to penetrate the wood and become an integral part of it.

### Abraded Plywood

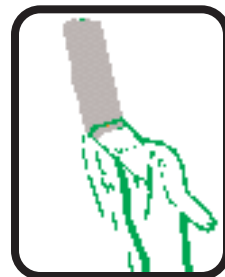
Power sanding the soft grain surface from plywood results in a hard grain surface, which does not accept stain well. You will not be happy with the results if you attempt to stain abraded plywood.

### What Color is Best?

The most satisfactory stain effects are natural, deep wood colors, whether using semi-transparent or solid color stains. Light or whitish stain effects will show soil and mildew more readily. Avoid applying a light color stain over a dark one.

### Test!

Stains vary on different woods, so it is essential that you test the stain on a piece of scrap wood from the job site or an inconspicuous area of the wood you want to stain.



# Surface Preparation

### All Surfaces

must be *clean*, free of dirt, oil and grease to achieve an even color finish with any type of stain. The surface must also be *dry* if you are using a semi-transparent or oil based solid color stain. Latex solid color stains may be applied to a damp, but not dripping surface.

### New Wood

Remove surface dirt, such as pencil marks, with water and cleaner. Grade stamps should be sanded off. This is especially important with semi-transparent stains, as such blemishes will show through the stain.

Remove oil and grease with Soilax.

Remove any wax with Super Waxoff.



### Old Wood with Semi-transparent Stains

As a general rule, these are always applied to bare wood, but a *well-weathered*, previously stained wood surface can be re-coated with semi-transparent stain if it is free of dirt, oil and grease. Old wood that has been "greyed out" is oxidized wood fiber that inhibits adhesion of stain. It should be sanded off before staining.

Paint and varnish, of course, must be completely removed by scrapers or removers before applying semi-transparent stain.



### Old Wood with Solid Color Stains

these can be applied to previously stained or painted surfaces in good condition. Remove dirt and excess chalk by washing with detergent. Use a non-sudsing detergent (and not a liquid dishwashing detergent, as some of these contain hand oil) and rinse thoroughly.



### Poorly Adhering Paint

This should be removed by scraping and the edges feathered in by sanding, before applying a solid color stain.



### Mildew

and dirt on the undersides of overhangs and other protected areas should be removed with a solution of 1 part bleach to 3 parts water, or a commercial mildew remover. If dirt remains, wash with a non-sudsing detergent and rinse thoroughly.



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ZP15864/69 #6017C/E 2M 9/04