

Timber Treatment Guide

Equipment

- **Chemical applicator** (e.g., knapsack, hand sprayer, mechanical sprayer etc.)
- **Brush** (e.g., yard brush, Vikan cleaning brush etc.)
- **High reach equipment** (e.g., ladder, telescopic chemical fed pole, aerial work platform such as a cherry picker etc.)

Contingent on the individual case, some of the above equipment may not be necessary.

Preparation

The species of timber used in building applications can range vastly. The particular timber found in a development (building cladding, furniture, decking and fencing) is usually in response to architectural, engineering and environmental considerations. Identifying the type of timber being treated can help in the estimation of Actiwash solution required. This is because the varying density of different species has an influence on the absorption levels of the Actiwash solution. An increase in timber density results in a decrease in liquid absorption. As a general note, 1 litre of diluted Actiwash solution can cover up to 4 metres squared of a dense timber (e.g., pitch pine, walnut etc.). Before application, ensure the timber is free from loose dirt. Be mindful that areas close to the ground may be affected by mud splashes. If so, rinse these away with water and a suitable detergent.

Dilution of the Concentrate

Version	Dilution Ratios	
	Mild Treatment	Heavy Treatment
Actiwash Pro	50:1	40:1
Actiwash Domestic	14:1	12:1

Application

Prepare a diluted solution of Actiwash in the tank of the chemical application equipment. Saturate the dry timber with the prepared solution by spray or brush, then leave.

When to rinse Actiwash off timber:

If unwanted, white-coloured contamination persists a couple of weeks after treating green staining, lightly pressure wash off and re-apply Actiwash for a long-lasting result.

Post-treatment

The biofilm dies shortly after saturation with Actiwash while the timber is drying. Afterwards, the processes of natural weathering take control to clean away the staining. Each organic stain will eventually disappear, with some diminishing quickly and others taking more time. For example, green staining will disappear within a week. Red

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staining will take 1-2 weeks. Black/dark staining can take several months to disappear; however, gradual lightening of the contamination should be noticeable within the first few weeks and months following treatment. Yellow and white spots (lichens) can often be the final contaminant remaining to be weathered away. The crust will dry out and recede. Rain and freeze-thaw weather cycles are beneficial.

FAQ

Q How should I protect nearby plants and grass during treatment?

A Water nearby plants and grass before and after surface treatment. Lightly cover vegetation which may be exposed to a greater risk of over-spray/runoff.

Q When should I apply Actiwash?

A Apply onto a dry substrate in temperatures above 7 degrees Celsius when rain is not expected for at least a few hours post-treatment. Ensure the surface stays 'wet' for 30 minutes after treating with Actiwash. Avoid applying onto very hot surfaces as the solution may evaporate too quickly.

Q Is Actiwash suitable for use on all species of timber?

A Yes, Actiwash is safe for use on all species of timber used in outdoor environments. If unsure, test in an inconspicuous area.

Q How much diluted Actiwash solution is used per metre squared?

A 1 litre should treat approximately 4 metres squared. Actual consumption may vary depending on the porosity of the substrate being treated.

Q What is a biofilm?

A A biofilm is a structured community of microorganisms that adhere to surfaces and can include bacteria, fungi, algae, and protozoa.

Q When should I re-treat timber?

A We recommend re-treating at first sign of re-contamination. Vertical, well drained timber structures generally stay cleaner for longer.