

CETOL INTERIOR STAIN PREPARATION

The right start to a beautiful finish. You've made the decision to choose Sikkens, the brand most synonymous with decorative finishes offering outstanding beauty, color and durability. Don't risk your investment with a poorly prepared wood surface. Be sure to follow the steps for proper surface preparation to help ensure you obtain the professional results your project deserves.

Unfinished New Wood

The following preparation procedure is for unfinished new wood.

1. Remove hardware. This will make the preparation faster and easier. Hardware that cannot be removed should be taped.
2. Clean entire surface with a solution of 4oz TSP (or phosphate-free substitute) in one gallon of warm water to remove grease, wax, dirt or oil. Use a damp cloth or sponge to remove residue from the surface, and allow to dry.
3. Repair the surface as even new wood may have cracks and holes to repair. Fill all holes and cracks with a good quality tinted or stained acrylic wood filler to match the color of the project.
4. Sand the surface using 80–120 grit sandpaper. For Cetol Interior Stain, do an additional final sanding using 180 grit sandpaper. Always sand wood with the grain to achieve a smoother surface without sanding marks. Remove sanding dust by vacuuming, then wipe surface with a damp cloth to remove final dust particles.

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Finished Wood – Removing an existing finish

If the wood surface is damaged, the old coating contained wax, or if the old coating is incompatible with the new Sikkens finish, the surface should be stripped completely to bare, clean wood. In most cases, there are two ways to remove an existing finish from wood, either by sanding or by chemical stripping.

1. Begin by removing all hardware from the wood. If it cannot be removed, it must be taped. Then follow by either:

A Sanding the Wood:

2. Be sure the surface is free from contaminants by wiping the surface with a solution of 4oz TSP (or Phosphate-free substitute) in one gallon of warm water. Use a damp cloth or sponge to remove residue from the surface, and allow to dry.
3. Sand the surface in the direction of the wood grain to bare wood using 60–80 grit paper. Remove sanding dust by vacuuming, and then wipe surface with a damp cloth to remove final dust particles.

B Stripping the Wood:

2. Select a non-wax based stripper. It is important not to use a wax based product as it may leave a residue that will cause adhesion problems with the new finish. Your Sikkens dealer can help you with the selection of a stripper that's right for your needs. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for use of the stripper.
3. Clean the surface with a solution of 4oz TSP (or phosphate-free substitute) in one gallon of warm water. Use a damp cloth or sponge to remove residue from the surface, and allow to dry.

Complete By:

4. Repair any surface problems, such as cracks or holes, with a good quality tinted acrylic or stained wood filler matching the color used in the project. Let the filler dry completely before sanding. Do not use oil based fillers, putties, or wax sticks.
5. Lightly sand the surface in the direction of the wood grain using 80–120 grit paper. Remove sanding dust by vacuuming, then wipe surface with a damp cloth to remove final dust particles.

Grain or Pore Filler

Some types of wood may require the use of an acrylic grain or pore filler that will help to achieve a smooth finish (in most cases it is applied on open-pored hardwoods such as oak, mahogany, teak and ash). Follow the manufacturer's instructions for application and drying time. Lightly sand the filler using 120–180 grit sandpaper until level with the surface. Remove all the dust by vacuuming and wipe completely with a damp cloth.

! HINT: Use sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood for flat surfaces. To check for smoothness go over the surface with a pair of old nylons or socks and re-sand where you feel a snag.

Sanding machines will make the sanding job easier and faster, but make sure to use the right size tool for the right size job. Consider hiring a professional to sand wood floors.

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General Recommendations

After you have prepared the surface, you are ready to apply your choice of a finishing system – a combination of stain and clear topcoat, or a clear topcoat only. Follow these step-by-step tips on how to achieve professional results when the Sikkens system is applied.

Color Check:

We cannot stress enough the importance of a color check – always do a full system stain and topcoat test on a piece of the same wood that will be used in the project.

Relative Humidity:

The relative humidity level should be below 80%. High humidity will slow down the drying time and may cause waterborne finishes to turn white.

Surface and Air Temperature:

The surface and air temperature must be between 50 – 95 F (10 – 35 C). For Cetol Interior Stain, the temperature should be between 50 –80 F (10 – 27 C).

Product Coverage:

Coverage rates depend upon grade, texture, and porosity of the wood.

When Mixing:

Always gently stir the product before applying it to the project. Never shake the product, this can cause bubbles to form in the coating, which may remain on the surface once the product has dried.

When Working Inside:

Always ensure good ventilation. Avoid direct sunshine that may cause uneven color because of shortened open time and poor penetration of the product.

For Darker Color:

More color depth can be achieved by applying a second coat of stain. This will guarantee a richer color with an even appearance. Letting the stain dry longer will also darken the color, but can be a problem if the stain dries before applying the wiping technique.

Clean-up

Sikkens Products	CLEAN UP WITH MINERAL SPIRITS	CLEAN UP WITH SOAP AND WATER
Cetol Interior Stain		■
Cetol Interior Clear	■	
Cetol BL Interior Clear		■
Cetol UV Interior		■
Cetol Loa Decor		■

Pre-treating Surface

CETOL WOOD CONDITIONER - FOR SOFT AND POROUS WOODS

Softwoods such as pine, fir, spruce, cedar, cypress, redwood and poplar, as well as woods with deep grain patterns, can absorb stain too quickly and unevenly, leaving the wood surface with blotches or streaks. The application of Cetol Wood Conditioner will prepare unfinished softwoods and equalize the wood cell structure to reduce streaking and blotching.

Coverage

Up to 600-sq. ft/US gal (15 sq. ml)

Method



Using a damp cloth, work the product on the surface wiping in a circular movement followed by wiping in the direction of the wood grain. The surface is ready to be stained.

CETOL INTERIOR STAIN APPLICATIONS

Staining

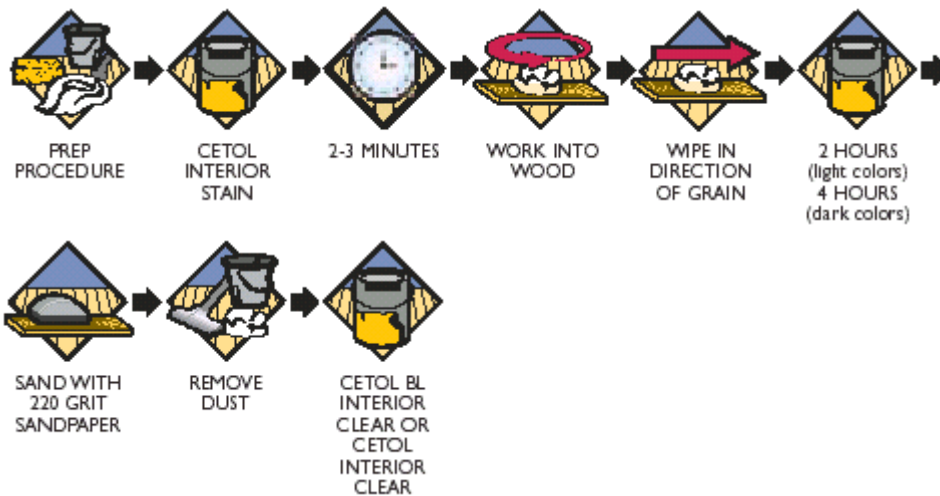
CETOL INTERIOR STAIN – ALL INTERIOR SURFACES

for unsurpassed color clarity and rich, uniform results.

Coverage

Up to 600 sq ft/ US gal. (15 sq m/liter).

Method



Stain Application Tips: Be sure to wipe the entire area with the same pressure. Failure to do so may result in shade differences. Apply modest coats of the stain to curved or upside down moldings. this will help avoid runs, and drips. If this occurs, run the brush over the problem areas. Cetol Wood Conditioner should be used before staining the surface with darker colors.

The procedure to use for refinishing an existing finish with a Cetol Clear product is:

1. Remove hardware from the wood. If it cannot be removed, it must be taped.
2. Clean entire surface to ensure the surface is free from contaminants by wiping the surface with a solution of 4oz TSP (or phosphate-free substitute) in a gallon of warm water. Use a damp cloth or sponge to remove residue from the surface, and allow to dry.
3. Sand the surface in the direction of the grain to remove the gloss, using 220 grit sandpaper. Remove sanding dust by vacuuming, and then wipe the surface with a damp cloth to remove final dust particles.
4. Refinish with a topcoat of Cetol BL Interior Clear or Cetol Interior Clear.

Product Usage Chart

Wood Surface	CETOL INTERIOR STAIN	CETOL BL INTERIOR CLEAR	CETOL INTERIOR CLEAR	CETOL LOG DÉCOR	CETOL UV INTERIOR
Doors	■	■	■	■	
Window Frames	■	■	■	■	
Wood Paneling	■	■	■	■	■
Bathroom Woodwork	■	■	■	■	
Kitchen Woodwork	■		■		
Trim, Baseboards	■	■	■	■	
Floors, Stairs, Banisters	■	■		■	
Saunas (dry)					■
Cabinets, Furniture	■	■	■	■	
Tabletops, Eating Surfaces	■		■		
Tabletops, Non-eating Surfaces	■	■	■	■	