

End Sealing



Sealing hardwood decking with paraffin or other aqueous wax solutions can provide several benefits, including enhanced protection and durability. However, it's important to note that the specific sealing method and materials used can vary based on personal preference and local regulations.

Here's a general overview of the process:

1. Clean the Deck

Before applying any sealer, ensure the deck surface is clean and free from dirt, debris, and any previous coatings. Use a deck cleaner or mild detergent along with a stiff brush to scrub away any stains or residue. Rinse thoroughly and allow the deck to dry completely.

2. Choose the Sealer

While paraffin or aqueous wax solutions can be used for sealing, it's advisable to consult the manufacturer's instructions or seek professional advice to determine the most suitable product for your specific hardwood decking. Consider factors such as the type of wood, climate conditions, and desired level of protection.

3. Prepare the Surface

Sanding the deck lightly can help smooth out any rough patches and create a more even surface. Be sure to remove any dust or debris after sanding.

4. Allow Drying Time

The drying time can vary depending on the product used, weather conditions, and humidity levels. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for the suggested drying time. It's crucial to keep the deck free from foot traffic or any objects that may damage the wet sealer during this period.

5. Apply Additional Coats (Optional)

Depending on the desired level of protection, you may choose to apply additional coats of the sealer. Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding the number of recommended coats and the drying time between applications.

6. Maintain the Sealed Deck

Regular maintenance is essential to preserve the integrity of the sealed hardwood deck. This may include routine cleaning, periodic reapplication of the sealer, and protecting the deck from excessive moisture, UV exposure, and heavy furniture.

Remember, it's always best to consult the specific instructions provided by the sealer manufacturer for the most accurate and up-to-date guidance on application and maintenance.

Note: It is not uncommon for the boards coming from the mill to have some overspray or overflow of end sealer on the board faces. Typically, this is trimmed off during installation, and a job site coat can be more carefully applied. If you intend to let your deck weather naturally and are patient, the end sealer will ultimately dissipate over time. If you want to remove the end sealer overspray, we recommend using hot soapy water. We have heard that degreasers may work as well. When working with finishes or solvents, we recommend that you follow the manufacturer's instructions and test an area out of sight before moving on to visible areas.