

Technical Bulletin No. 053

Residue Removal Guidelines for LP® SS® ExpertFinish®



LP® SmartSide® ExpertFinish® trim and siding products can develop residue when exposed to excessive water, if improperly stored prior to installation. The ExpertFinish application instructions describe Storage and Handling procedures that require products to be kept dry prior to installation. If those procedures are not followed, and water intrusion into packaging occurs during storage, then the residue must be removed. Remove any visible residue before installation.

Summary on Types of Residues:

1. YELLOW/BROWN RESIDUE:

Natural occurring compounds originate when wood is exposed to water. Water acts as a dissolvent to extract the compounds, then evaporates to deposit a sticky residue, yellow/brown in color. The residue is water soluble, therefore can be removed with water. The application of touchup paint is NOT a viable solution, due to potential for residue bleed through.

- Wipe with a clean wet cloth to remove residue.
- An alternate option would be to spray water with low-pressure garden hose and soft sponge.
- DO NOT USE: Detergents, solvents, scrubbing apparatus, high pressure spray, etc.



2. WATER MARKS:

The finish appearance or sheen (gloss) on trim and siding product can be affected by exposure to water after several hours. It may appear as minor water marks. These water marks will dissipate after the entire siding installation is exposed to rain or dew conditions for several days.

- No cleaning is needed to reduce this condition.
- DO NOT USE: Detergents, solvents, scrubbing apparatus, high pressure spray, etc.



3. WHITE RESIDUE:

Surfactant leaching (inherent in paint) can occur after prolonged contact with standing water which later dries on the siding, particularly in packaged units.

- This residue can be removed by washing with low-pressure garden hose and soft sponge.
- If stubborn surfactant residue remains, use white vinegar at 10:1 dilution with water.
- **Diluting the white vinegar with water is critical to avoid paint damage.**
- DO NOT USE: Detergents, other solvents, scrubbing apparatus, high pressure spray, etc.



4. DARK STAINS:

Mildew can appear on the surface and edges of trim or siding when conditions are favorable for biological activity. This dark gray/black residue is NOT water soluble.

- Mildew cleaners such as Simple Green® have been formulated to remove mildew.
- This residue can be removed by washing with a soft sponge and 5-parts water + 1-part Simple Green® concentrated formula cleaner & degreaser. For larger areas, use a low pressure handheld or backpack-style pump sprayer.
- DO NOT USE: Other detergents, other solvents, scrubbing apparatus, high pressure spray, etc.

NOTE: Washing trim or siding per the recommendations above will NOT affect the paint's performance or LP SmartSide ExpertFinish Limited Warranty.