

Hot Weather Applications

Applications of all Perma-Chink exterior finish removers, cleaners, stains, topcoats and sealants can be challenging to apply in extremely hot weather, i.e. over 90°F. However, if you are prepared and know what to avoid, you can easily cope with applications during the hot summer months. Each of our products list an application temperature range where the product performs best. Keep in mind this is the temperature of the surface/wall not the surrounding air temperature. However, to help you better understand some of the differences, we will address each of our product lines individually.

Finish Removers

Although finish removers work better at higher temperatures, they must remain damp. If you allow them to dry on the surface they will not work properly. In the case of S-100, on a very hot and dry day, you should mist the wall with water prior to applying S-100. This will help cool the wall and extend the time before it starts to dry. If you see the product beginning to dry, lightly mist it with water. Be careful not to over apply the water. If it starts to run down the wall, you have applied too much.

StripIt® is more resistant to drying than S-100; however, when exposed to direct sunlight it will also start to dry on the surface. When this occurs, it will stop working and turn into a white powdery coating. When StripIt® appears to be drying, apply additional StripIt® to keep it wet or cover it with a plastic film. Do not mist StripIt® with water.

If S-100 or **StripIt®** completely dries on chinking, sealants, or wood, reapply some chemical stripper to resolubilize the dried residue, and remove with a pressure washer.

Cleaners

Like the finish removers, cleaners also stop working if they dry out. Keep Wood ReNew and Log Wash damp with a light mist of water until it is time to wash them off. The same technique applies to OXcon. It is especially important to keep Oxcon wet. If it is allowed to dry and crystallize on the wood, the resultant oxalic crystals become very difficult to rinse off.

Stains and Topcoats

It is the surface temperature of the wall that has the largest impact on the application of a stain or topcoat. The hotter the surface temperature, the faster the finish dries. It is not unusual for log surface temperatures to exceed 170°F when exposed to

direct sunlight. At these temperatures drying times can be reduced to a matter of seconds, much too fast for adequate back-brushing and proper film formation. Once the finish is on the wall, it does not really matter if the stain is subjected to direct sunlight. It is the surface temperature during the application process that is critical. On the south and west walls, it may be best to start early in the morning while the walls are still cool. Later in the afternoon, even when the wall is not subjected to direct sunlight, the surface temperature may still be over 100°F.

Sealants (Perma-Chink, Energy Seal, Woodsman, Check Mate 2)

Sealants are more sensitive to direct sunlight even in cooler temperatures than they are to heat in general. Direct sunlight accelerates the “skinning” of the sealant trapping the water contained within the product. When this water converts to water vapor and tries to escape from the product, it can create blisters on the surface of the sealant. High ambient temperatures also influence the viscosity of sealants, they become more fluid. However, sealants can still be successfully applied even when the air temperature exceeds 90°F provided the freshly applied product is protected from direct sunlight.