

## How to Apply LIFELINE Interior Finishes

Since interior finishes are not subjected to weather events, their objective is to provide aesthetics to your living area, abrasion and stain resistance, washability, and easy maintenance. Interior finishes also provide more color flexibility if you desire a pigmented stain. There are, however, some parameters that need to be followed to assure optimal performance of the interior finish.

If you decide to use a pigmented stain, the number of coats to apply is solely dependent on the color you desire. We do recommend that UV Boost be added to the first coat of stain when applying the finish to bare wood. This will help make the wood UV stable and reduces the “picture frame” effect on areas that are subjected to exposure from sunlight. Next is to apply a clearcoat. When top coated with Acrylic Gloss or Satin, the finish surfaces become more resistant to dirt pick-up, stains and abrasion.

If you choose a clear coat finish, we recommend the bare wood first be primed with Prelude (a waterborne wood primer). Prelude, which contains UV Boost, seals the wood surface, so you will use less Acrylic Gloss or Satin.

As with all water-based products, our interior finishes may raise the grain of bare wood. However, do not attempt to sand either Lifeline Interior or Prelude because you risk removal of what you applied and it might result in a blotchy final appearance. If you want a smooth surface, sand after you have applied the first or second coat of Acrylic Gloss or Satin with fine grit paper. Once the desired smoothness is achieved, remove the dust with a tack cloth. Additional coats of Acrylic Gloss or Satin may then be applied without sanding between coats.

If a clear coat with more depth and abrasion resistance is desired, Sure Shine can be substituted for Acrylic Gloss or Satin. Sure Shine is a water-based, urethane-acrylic clear finish that can be used on walls and cabinets as well as floors. However, since Sure Shine is not as flexible or breathable, it should only be applied to dry wood with a moisture content of less than 20%. Sure Shine should be stirred, not shaken, prior to application and applied with smooth, even brush strokes without vigorous back-brushing.

## Equipment to Have on Hand

Ladders, ladder jacks and platform, if necessary.

Electric Drill.

Paint mixer (available from Perma-Chink Systems or most paint stores and DIY outlets).

High quality paint or stain brushes (this is not an area to cut costs).

Clean rags and sponge.

Airless sprayer if desired, i.e. Airlessco SP200® (Do not use with Sure Shine)

## Preparing Interior Wood Surfaces

Interior walls and ceilings must be cleaned prior to applying a finish. If your home is finished or furnished, pressure washing is not an option. A combination of sanding with an Osborn brush or a surface conditioning disk and washing usually work well. After vacuuming the sawdust, washing with one cup of Log Wash per gallon of clean water will remove the dirt as well as any remaining loose wood particles. Finally, a wipe down with a rag or sponge and clean water will help remove any Log Wash residue. Allow the surface to dry before applying the first coat of stain.

## Applying LIFELINE Prelude, Interior Stains and Acrylic Topcoats

Step 1. Remove the lid from the pail and stir the contents for at least 5 minutes using an electric drill and a paint mixer. Be sure that all of the pigments are uniformly dispersed throughout the product. Mixing is also required for clear LIFELINE products such as Prelude and Acrylic Gloss and Satin. When mixing Acrylic Satin make sure that none of the flattening agent remains on the bottom of the pail.

**Note:** When using pigmented stains we recommend “boxing” containers as they get close to empty. When a container gets down to about 1/4 full, mix up the next container you plan to use and pour about 1/4 of it into the previous container, mix them together and then use the mixed stain to continue. This ensures that there will be no noticeable color difference as you go from one container to the next. It is not necessary to box Prelude, Acrylic or Sure Shine.

- Step 2. Use a high quality brush or airless sprayer to apply the first coat of pigmented interior stain or Prelude Clear Wood Primer. Start the application at the top of the wall and work your way down. This avoids having to set a ladder against a wet finish and allows you to work out any drips and runs that may occur during the application process. Be sure to back-brush the finish as you move along.
- Step 3. Work on one or two courses of logs at a time. LIFELINE finishes are made to go on in thin coats, do not flood the surface with product. Continue brushing until you have spread the finish out as far as it will go.
- Step 4. While maintaining a wet edge continue the application process until you come to a break point like a window frame or butt end of the log. Never stop in the middle of a log. If you do, you will end up with a lap mark that will be difficult or impossible to hide.
- Step 5. Continue the application process working your way down the wall until the wall is completed.
- Step 6. In the case of a pigmented interior stain allow the finish to dry before deciding whether you want to apply an additional coat. The color will change as it dries so don't make your decision until the wall is completely dry. Do not attempt to sand or buff LIFELINE color coats or Prelude.
- Step 7. Once you are satisfied with the color, apply at least one coat of LIFELINE Acrylic Gloss and Satin using the same application technique as the color coats. Once the first coat of Acrylic Gloss or Satin has been applied and allowed time to dry the surface may be sanded smooth using fine sandpaper. Sanding will not be necessary between subsequent coats. **If Sure Shine Polyurethane Premium Finish is to be used as the topcoat, read the next section.**
- Step 8. Clean brushes and equipment with soap and water.

### Applying Sure Shine Polyurethane Premium Finish

Step 1. Remove the lid from the pail and gently stir the contents of the pail with a paint paddle. Do not use a paint mixer or vigorously shake the container. It will entrap air into the product. When mixing Sure Shine Satin make sure that none of the flattening agent remains on the bottom of the pail.

Step 2. Sure Shine is best applied with a high quality brush or short bristled paint pad using slow even strokes. Vigorous brushing will form bubbles in the film and result in a rough surface. The viscosity of Sure Shine allows a thicker coat to be applied than when using Acrylic Gloss or Satin. You will still need to back-brush but use smooth, slow strokes.



Step 3. Once the first coat has completely dried the surface may be sanded smooth using 180 grit or higher sandpaper. If the surface is the slightest bit soft, sanding will generate little pills of finish and make a mess of the surface. Sanding will not be necessary between subsequent coats.

Step 4. Clean brushes and equipment with soap and water.

### Maintenance of Interior Surfaces

Maintenance of interior finished surfaces is simple. A yearly cleaning with a one cup per gallon Log Wash solution is all that you will need to do. You do not need to use a lot of water. Just wipe the surface with a rag dampened with the Log Wash solution and then go back over it with a rag and clean water. To avoid any water spots you can wipe the surface again with a dry rag.