

# DRYDEN®

**WOODOIL** THE NATURAL CHOICE  
FOR YOUR TIMBER

## Dryden WoodOil Cleaning & Maintenance Guide

Dryden recommend annual maintenance inspections and soft washing to keep the building in optimum condition. In some circumstances, due to localised environmental conditions soft washing will be required more regularly.

Inspections help with the early identification of maintenance requirements and minor issues before they become large expensive problems.

Recent changes to the Building Code mean most timber cladding manufacturers provide proprietary systems. These systems require not only the correct materials being supplied and installed, but also that timber is correctly **maintained** to ensure the required durability is met. In addition to having a new build signed off, **there must be a maintenance programme in place** for timber cladding.

When timber maintenance is neglected and poorly maintained defects can occur, which may result in extensive and avoidable damage to the durability of the timber.

When the timber is maintained in a systematic way, warranties for the timber building systems are met.

### Dryden WoodOil Maintenance Re-coating Requirements

When Dryden WoodOil 'Clear' is applied, timber in exposed environments will **weather naturally and silver over time**. This means that the natural timber colour will be maintained under covered areas while transitioning out to silver in exposed areas.

#### **Maintenance: 1 coat**

Dryden WoodOil 'Clear' up to 3 years. On high exposure areas maximum up to 2 years.

Dryden WoodOil with Dryden ColourTone up to 2 years.

Dressed Timbers/Dark Colours/ Thicker Timbers 1st maintenance coat up to 1 year from the completion of the initial coating system. Then up to 2 years for high exposure areas.

**Note:** Maintenance requirements may extend out depending on the quality of application of first coating, building design, orientation to sun, weather exposure, chosen colour, timber type and grain.

### Determining the Cleaning Method

#### **Annual Inspection & Soft Wash:**

To keep your timber protected and looking fresh it must be inspected and maintained regularly. This simply means an annual soft wash and inspection of the timber surface.

By inspecting the building at the same time as the annual soft wash you can pre-empt any maintenance that may or may not need attending to. Maintenance does not necessarily mean the whole building will require re-coating at one time. Generally, the building will require maintenance in sections (elevations) depending on the building design, exposure and orientation to the sun.

**Soft Wash Prior To Maintenance (If carried out on time):**

Dryden recommend soft water washing of the surface to remove surface contaminants such as dust and pollens in preparation for maintenance recoating.

After cleaning Dryden recommend one coat of Dryden WoodOil only.

**Note:** Dryden ColourTones that are faded or chalking but still even and consistent (not patchy), must not be cleaned off (soft wash only). When WoodOil is reapplied over faded or chalking coating, the coating will be rejuvenated extending UV attributes and cosmetic life.

**Strong Wash Prior To Restoration Refurbishment Remedial Work (Maintenance not carried out on time):**

If maintenance has not been kept up, a stronger wash with Dryden SurfaceCleaner will be required, prior to re-coating with Dryden WoodOil.

After cleaning Dryden recommend one initial coat followed by a **second coat 3-6 months** after the first coat application, to allow more colour enhancement and UV protection.

Refer Dryden SurfaceCleaner data sheet for further cleaning information.

**Maintaining a Silver Patina (Dryden WoodOil 'Clear'):**

When maintenance Soft Washes have not been kept up and mould spores have become apparent within the timbers silvered patina.

## Preparation Prior To Cleaning

**Stormwater Collection:**

All down pipes must be disconnected when feeding into stormwater collection system, to prevent contamination of waterways. Follow all local body requirements.

**Tank water collection drinking or gardening:**

Disconnect all down pipes and thoroughly flush all gutters and roof areas prior to reconnecting.

## CLEANING METHODS

### Annual Inspection & Soft Wash

It's difficult to determine the condition of a finish when it's covered with layers of dirt, dust, pollen and other contaminants that will attract mould. It's necessary therefore to soft wash the building with clean water before starting a maintenance inspection.

**Soft Wash**

A soft wash with clean water is **intended to clean like rainfall**. It is sufficient to remove most surface contaminants such as dirt, dust, pollen and other environmental grime and is particularly important for areas where rain and wind cannot usually reach.

**Equipment:**

Dryden recommend using hose pressure in combination with a rose head spray adaptor with shower setting to rinse the building. By using this method there is less chance of damaging the Dryden WoodOil coating.

*Or, use a water blaster set to the lowest possible pressure and wide fan nozzle to generate a spraying mist.*

This method is acceptable when the **spray mist** is not brought close to the surface (**no less than 1.5 to 2 metres**) and is used to rinse the surface only. Take care not to disturb coating in good even condition. Do not direct too closely around door openings, window frames and other openings in the cladding.

**Note:** Never use pencil or turbo nozzles on water blasters when cleaning timber.

**Method:**

Pre-soak the timber surface with hose or water blaster and wait 5 minutes before rinsing linearly along the timbers. Work from the top to bottom along the lengths of timber with long sweeping motions in the direction of the grain, feathering on and off at the end of each sweep of the area to be cleaned.

When stubborn dirt and contaminates are present use a soft brush (such as car wash brush) and a mild detergent solution to carefully remove, trying not to remove the Dryden ColourTone.

**Note:** Dryden ColourTones that are faded or chalking but still even and consistent (not patchy), must not be cleaned off (soft wash only). When WoodOil is reapplied over faded or chalking coating, the coating will be rejuvenated extending UV attributes and cosmetic life.

If the chalky Dryden ColourTone is coming off during the wash process, then soften the cleaning method.

**Note:** When the building is coated with Dryden WoodOil 'Clear' and has a silvered patina, the soft wash cleaning process should only clean off contaminants, **not the desired silvered patina** look.

## Inspecting

### What are you looking for when inspecting:

Start at one corner of the building and be sure to look all the way around. Inspect each wall individually and do not try to inspect too much at a time. Begin by standing back away from the wall and look for some of the more obvious signs of aging then have a close up look and feel.

From a distance it is easier to see general patterns of wear and fading of the coating, especially on the northern and western walls, look closely for colour fade.

When up close, look in detail at what's happening to the timber surface and feel for any chalking of the colour.

### What needs recoating:

Dryden does not recommend re-coating the entire building as there could be areas which are still in good condition, we only recommend coating the walls that are displaying signs of colour fade, or started chalking, which is just signs of maintenance being required and is normal.

When chalking has been left too long, has weathered off and allowed the timber to silver, a strong wash will be required.

**Refer Washing Prior To Remedial Work** (*Maintenance not carried out on time*)

## Soft Wash Prior To Maintenance (*If carried out on time*)

A soft wash with clean water is **intended to clean like rainfall**. It is sufficient to remove most surface contaminants such as dirt, dust, pollen and other environmental grime and is particularly important for areas where rain and wind cannot usually reach.

After cleaning Dryden recommend one coat of Dryden WoodOil only.

**Refer Dryden WoodOil data sheet for further coating information.**

Where Dryden ColourTone is even and consistent in colour but is faded or chalky, these elevations should be considered for a Dryden WoodOil maintenance coat.

**Note:** Dryden ColourTones that are faded or chalking but still even and consistent (not patchy), must not be cleaned off (soft wash only). When WoodOil is reapplied over faded or chalking coating, the coating will be rejuvenated extending UV attributes and cosmetic life.

### Equipment:

Using hose pressure in combination with a rose head spray adaptor with shower setting to rinse the building. By using this method there is less chance of damaging the Dryden WoodOil coating.

Or, use a water blaster set to the lowest possible pressure and wide fan nozzle to generate a spraying mist.

This method is acceptable when the **spray mist** is not brought close to the surface (**no less than 1.5 to 2 metres**) and is used to rinse the surface only. Take care not to disturb coating in good even condition. Do not direct too closely around door openings, window frames and other openings in the cladding.

**Note:** Never use pencil or turbo nozzles on water blasters when cleaning timber.

### Method:

Pre-soak the timber surface with hose or water blaster and wait 5 minutes before rinsing linearly along the timbers. Work from the top to bottom along the lengths of timber with long sweeping motions in the direction of the grain, feathering on and off at the end of each sweep of the area to be cleaned.

When stubborn dirt and contaminants are present use a soft brush (such as car wash brush) and a mild detergent solution to carefully remove, trying not to remove the Dryden ColourTone.

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If the chalky Dryden ColourTone is coming off during the wash process, then soften the cleaning method.

When stubborn dirt and grime is present use a soft brush (such as car wash brush) and a mild detergent solution to carefully remove, trying not to remove the Dryden ColourTone.

**Note:** When the building is coated with Dryden WoodOil 'Clear' and has a silvered patina, the soft wash cleaning process should only clean off contaminants, **not the desired silvered patina** look.

## Strong Wash Prior to Restoration Refurbishment Remedial Work (Maintenance not carried out on time)

If for any reason maintenance has not been kept up with Dryden WoodOil & Dryden ColourTone or where timbers have not been previously coated and are silvered, then a stronger wash using **Dryden SurfaceCleaner** will be required prior to re-coating with Dryden WoodOil.

**Refer Dryden SurfaceCleaner data sheet for further information.**

After cleaning Dryden recommend one initial coat followed by a **second coat 3-6 months** later, to allow more colour enhancement and UV protection.

**Refer Dryden WoodOil data sheet for further coating information.**

The natural silvering starts when the Dryden ColourTone (timber UV protection) has become chalky and eroded away through weathering.

**Note:** Dryden WoodOil is still deep within the timber providing the protection the timber requires, the Dryden ColourTone is a sacrificial part of the coating system.

### Preparation

Evaluate the exterior timber to be cleaned and use the appropriate cleaning method and the pressure required to avoid damaging the timber.

When water blasting around painted surfaces, make sure that any visible damage is repaired before cleaning. If painted surfaces are unsound, the cleaning may lift and remove loose paint. Cover nearby plants, ponds and light fixtures.

Sweep or brush away loose debris from the surfaces to be cleaned.

Close windows, doors and place towels on the inside of window sills. Cover areas that need to be protected, e.g. vents or alarm boxes.

**Note:** When the timber is weathered and silvered **all** damaged timber cells, mould and other contaminants must be cleaned from the timber surface.

### Cleaning Tools

Water blaster or power washer (preferred method)

Firm bristle brush or broom, scouring pad. (Use only synthetic **not metal** scouring pads)

**Note:** Never use pencil or turbo nozzles on water blasters when cleaning timber.

**Note:** Water blasters are better used with low pressure and a high-water volume, 13 litres per minute plus are best.

When using a water blaster ensure you are only cleaning and removing colour, dirt and silvered timber, from the surface of the timber and not damaging the actual timber

### **Application Tools**

Dryden SurfaceCleaner applies easily and rapidly and can be applied by:  
General garden sprayer  
Large backpack sprayer  
Motorised spray system

### **Dilution Rates**

Mixing ratio 10g SurfaceCleaner per Litre of clean water  
E.g. 100g Dryden SurfaceCleaner per 10 litres of clean water

**Note:** Ten litres of made up solution will clean approximately 60-70 square metres of timber surface, depending on porosity of timber and environmental conditions when applying.

### **Dryden SurfaceCleaner Application**

Clean timber in shade out of direct sunlight or on overcast days.

Direct sun and warmth will evaporate the product and so will not remain active on the surface. Application must be done either in shade or on overcast day to prevent the product drying during the cleaning process.

Pour mixture into garden sprayer, seal and pressurise or other chosen method.

Ensure sprayer is kept pressurised to keep a good stream flowing.

Saturate surface to be cleaned beginning from the bottom and moving towards the top so that the solution runs back down onto itself. Leave Dryden SurfaceCleaner on surface for 15 -20 minutes, keeping wet (re apply solution if necessary). This allows the Dryden SurfaceCleaner to saturate through the oxidised silvered surface and allow easier removal.

### **Cleaning Methods**

Before cleaning any surface, test cleaning method in an inconspicuous area to determine the optimal spray pattern, scrubbing technique and distance of water blaster from timber surface to obtain best cleaning results.

Always take care to ensure all run off is collected and safely disposed or water boomed off onto gardens or grassed areas.

Severely mould affected surfaces may require multiple cleaning treatments.

The following methods should remove all silvered timber fibres and chalking Dryden ColourTone. When done correctly the timber surface should be back to an even natural look ready for re-coating.

After cleaning with Dryden SurfaceCleaner always rinse off ensuring all cleaning residue is removed.

### **Firm Bristle Brush or Broom, Scouring Pad Cleaning.**

After the Dryden SurfaceCleaner has soaked the surface for 15 -20 minutes, use a firm brush to systematically clean the boards linearly to remove dirt, contaminants and oxidized timber (weathered).

On exterior cladding always clean from top down to bottom. This allows dirty water and contaminants to run off.

**Note:** Use duster brush or synthetic scouring pads, **no metal** scours to avoid iron staining.

### **Water Blaster Cleaning (preferred method)**

#### **Method:**

After the Dryden SurfaceCleaner has soaked the surface for 15 -20 minutes, use a water blaster to remove the dirt and oxidants.

Set water blaster to a low pressure setting approximately 870-1200 psi and wide fan (nozzle) setting.

**Note:** Never use pencil or turbo nozzles on water blasters when cleaning timber.

On exterior cladding always work from top to bottom, this allows dirty water and contaminants to run off.

Always clean timber linearly, in direction of grain.

Keep water blaster nozzle at a consistent distance from the timber surface and pressure levels at a level that avoids damaging the timber.

Clean full length of the timber (do not stop mid-section. Clean timber to a natural break) going backwards and forward, **feathering on and off** at the end of each stroke overlapping slightly.

**Note:** Never leave the (water blasters) concentrated spray of pressurised water stationary in one spot at any time, especially when transitioning from left to right or vice versa of each cleaning stroke.

This will result in 'water pressure cleaning lines' markings on the timber surface, which will show when recoating. **Always feather pressurised water** on and off to avoid markings.

### **Inspection (once dry)**

Once the timber has dried inspect your work.

The appearance of timber changes as it dries, small imperfections can often go unnoticed when the timber is wet.

The timber cladding should have no 'water pressure cleaning lines' from incorrect feathering on and off. The surface should be consistent with no areas unwashed, as when re-coating, faults may show.

### **Remaining Dull Timber, Stains and Blemishes**

After cleaning timbers may have a dull appearance or have cosmetic stains and blemishes. Dryden LiquidTimberClean is an effective specialist cleaning product which can be used to freshen and brighten dulled timber and will help to improve any cosmetic staining and blemishes.

Refer Dryden LiquidTimberClean data sheet for further information.

### **Prior to coating**

Once dry remove loose raised fibres (denib) using a 3M griddle scrubber or synthetic scorer pad, not metal.

Gently brush linearly along the length of the board to remove loose fibres. Ensure an even look and finish.

Refer Dryden WoodOil data sheet for further coating information.

## **Maintaining a Silver Patina (Dryden WoodOil 'Clear')**

If for any reason maintenance Soft Washes have not been kept up and mould spores have become apparent within the timbers silvered patina, Dryden recommend using a product which will selectively kill mould and lichen on the exterior timber surface over an extended period. Then over time the weathering process will allow the dead growths to naturally erode away without damaging the silver patina.

**Note:** Do not use bleach-based products.

## **Dryden WoodOil Re-Coating**

For all re-coating requirements refer Dryden WoodOil Data Sheet.

## **Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Precautions**

Always wear appropriate PPE such as protective gloves, eye protection and face protection.

When spraying or in case of inadequate ventilation wear respiratory protection.

Wash skin thoroughly after handling with hot soapy water.

Refer Dryden WoodOil SDS for detailed information.

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## Information

The responsibility for products sold is subject to our standard terms and conditions.  
For further information refer to the Dryden WoodOil Data Sheet and Dryden WoodOil SDS.

For additional information contact:

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