DIY Restoration Guide

Simon Cooper

The Stripper that gets it off,
Every time!

Ver 120615

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Before You Start

- Read **'Setting up the products'** Pg 3
- Read '**Health and Safety'** Pg 12
- Read **'Protecting Other Surfaces'** Pg 3**, s**pectacles and watch faces that are exposed to the "Stripper" or "Flusher" may be damaged.
- Your ability to apply an even wet coat of "Stripper" is critical for the success of the project. See **"Correctly using a Trigger"** on Pg. 4
- **Practice makes Perfect:** Before starting the main project, gain confidence in the system by practicing on a small area 1st
- **Damage to substrate:** Resin or plaster substrates may be softened by the stripper, trial on a small area first to establish suitability, on these types of substrate do not leave the stripper on any longer than needed.
- **Substrate:** The term "Substrate" defines the surface that the paint or varnish is being stripped from.
- In cold weather some of the waxes in the "Stripper" can solidify, clogging the filters & jets of the triggers. Ideally the "Stripper" should be used at between 15 – 30 degrees C, warm the "Stripper" if needed. See "**Setting up the products"** (Pg 3)
- **Steel Wool Advice:** If you are stripping a wet area such as an exterior project or a bathroom," **do not** use **Steel Wool** as fine steel fragments may lodge in the substrate, that will over time rust, leaving black spots. In these cases use nylon abrasive pads or soft bristled brush's.

Be Patient; let the Stripper do the job

‘What to Do’ Stripping Guide

The Cooper's Stripping System gives you the ‘No Sanding’ advantage by re-using the sanding that was done by the person who made what you are about to strip!

The following method allows you to strip the old paint & varnish from “On Top” of the surface (Steps 1 – 3), as well as from “Within” the surfaces outer layers (Steps 4 – 6)

1: Apply Stripper

Steps 1-3 will remove what is “ON TOP” of the surface

- **Spray on a light, even, wet coat**
- Move the applicator as you spray (use a sweeping action, like a spray painter)

Protect all surfaces not being stripped (see page 3)

Keep the surface wet with Stripper

2: Wait...

... for the stripper to reach the surface

- Be patient, let it do its work, **(2 - 60 mins)**
- Apply more stripper if the old finish starts to appear dry
- If large hollow blisters appear, remove them (Step 3), then reapply more stripper (Step 1)

3: Remove Gunge

- Use a flexible putty knife for flat surfaces
- Use an old spoon for a molded surface
- Lightly drag a 4-edged blade through acrylic & lead paint.

Repeat steps 1 - 3 on any areas where the old finish has not been removed

4: Apply Stripper...

... then wait 2 -5 minutes

Steps 4-6 will remove what is “WITHIN” the Surface

- Typically when the surface was originally finished, the first few coats of paint or varnish to be applied absorbed into the surfrace.

Keep the surface wet with Stripper

5: Scrub Surface

- Scrub the wet surface using 1 or more of the following: Steel wool, Grit embedded nylon pads or a soft bristled brush
- Scrub in the direction of the grain
- After scrubbing, wipe away any wet gunge with a cloth

DO NOT USE STEEL WOOL IN A WET AREA e.g. exterior or bathroom

Keep the surface wet with Flusher

6: Rinse Surface Clean

Spray Flusher onto the surface while scrubbing with...

...1 or more of the following: (clean) Steel wool, Grit embedded nylon pads or a soft bristled detail brush - Scrub in the direction of the grain

- wipe dry with a clean dry cloth

DO NOT USE STEEL WOOL IN A WET AREA e.g. exterior or bathroom

Final Check

The wet rinsed look (6) is the finished look

- If the wet rinsed look (6) is to your liking, you are now ready to apply a new finish! No Sanding Required!
- If there is undesirable paint or stain left “Within” the surface, repeat steps 4 - 6, **(Use a Grit Embedded Nylon pad)**

(In some cases undesirable pigment may remain or you will uncover a blemish that requires additional work)

Notes:

- Look for a even wet reflection in the light
- See **“Correctly using a Trigger”** on Pg. 4
- Start from the top & work your way down to avoid residue running into a stripped area
- Avoid product wastage through evaporation by not working in the direct sun, wind or by working on to large an area

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- Multiple light applications will absorb into the old finish more effectively than a thick application of gel
- Carefully slice where there is a paint build up, for example where a beading connects a panel, then apply Stripper into the slice
- Different finishes react in their own unique way to the Stripper, Shellac will dissolve, Enamel will blister, Polyurethane will fry, while Acrylic, lead & 2 packs will soften & become rubbery

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- The rule is to not use a tool that damages the surface

- Steps 4 – 6 gives you the Cooper’s “No Sanding” advantage

- Do not scrub the surface dry; keep the surface wet with additional “Stripper” if required
- When wiping away the wet gunge, roll the cloth as you wipe to avoid pushing residue into the surface
- Read Steel Wool notice in the **‘Before You Start’** section Pg.1

At the completion of Step 5 move immediately onto Step 6 to remove any soft residue that remains before it hardens

Spray → Scrub → Spray → Wipe

- Use **Clean** Steel Wool, brushes & pads to avoid soft residues being spread
- Read Steel Wool notice in the **‘Before You Start’** section Pg.1

- If your project requires any additional work, see **“Unforeseen Stripping Results”** on Pg. 5

Protecting Other Surfaces

Use pre-taped, 3M plastic sheeting (Hand-Masker brand) or a equivalent product you have tested to be “Stripper” proof to protect any area where there is likelihood for damage to occur.
The type of surfaces that are likely to be damaged by Cooper’s Stripper or Flusher are paint, varnish, powder coating, wallpaper, linoleum, carpet, plastics casings (light switch’s, TV cabinets etc).
The longer masking tape is left on, the stickier it becomes, potentially damaging the protected surface when it is removed. Apply masking tape just before stripping starts and remove immediately after stripping is complete.

Masking Procedure:

1. Apply the Pre-taped plastic sheeting to the surface being protected, attach the tape approximately 10 mm from the surface being stripped.
2. Apply a “Solvent Resistant” tape so that it covers over both the 10 mm gap and the tape that is attached to the plastic (approx 50 mm).
    - Apply two layers of “Solvent Resistant” tape when the protected surface is horizontal (Floor).
    - If a delicate surface like wallpaper is being protected, a layer of “Low Tack” tape will need to be applied to the surface being protected first before applying the solvent resistant tape.
    - If a rough surface like painted concrete is being protected, a layer of “High Tack” tape will need to be applied to the surface being protected first before applying the solvent resistant tape.

Masking tape is Stripper Resistant, <u>NOT</u> proof, use a shield when applying “Stripper” next to a masked off area, an absorbent piece of cardboard is ideal for most situations.

- When applying “Stripper” to a masked area ensure you hold a shield in such a way that the over spray from the trigger can not get on the masking tape.
- If the “Stripper” touches the tape, immediately wipe it away with a dry cloth as the “Stripper” will work its way through the tape and damage the surface being protected.
- When using the “Flusher” a shield is generally not required as its solvency is usually not great enough to damage the tape for the time you would be working with it.
- When wiping residues from the surface always wipe away any liquid that is on the tape.

Setting Up the Products

When handling the products, wear the appropriate safety equipment. See **“Health and Safety” (Pg. 12)**

“Stripper”:

1. Ensure the containers original lid is screwed on tight
2. Invert the container and shake well so that any of the ingredients that have settled mix back together.
3. Decant the “Stripper” into the applicator trigger bottle.
    - In the case of the 10 or 20 litre sizes, use a “Tap in a Cap”.
    - In the case of the ½, 1, 2 or 5 litre sizes, use a funnel, when pouring the 2 and 5 litre cans ensure the opening is at the top to reduce the chance of drips.
4. Attach the trigger head to the applicator bottle and you are ready to start.
    - If the tube that draws the “Stripper” out of the applicator bottle is to long, simple push down on the trigger head, forcing the tube to bend around the bottom of the bottle.
    - Shake before use if it has not been used for more than ½ an hour.

    Cold weather: “Stripper” works best between 15 – 30 degrees C, if the ‘Stripper” drops below 15degress C, warm it by sitting the container into warm water, loosen the lid before warming to allow pressure to escape and then retighten afterwards. Do not use water that is over 40 degrees C, as the Stripper will boil.

“Flusher”:

1. Decant “Flusher” using the same decanting procedure as for “Stripper”. As “Flusher” does not separate like “Stripper” and can be used at any temperature, there is no need to heat it in cold weather.

Steel Wool:

1. Cut a length of approx 200 mm with an old pair of scissors or snips.
    a. Do not cut next to where the liquids are as loose bits of wool may transfer into the liquids and may cause the applicator triggers to block.
    b. **Do not** attempt to break the steel wool with your hands as strands of the wool may cut your hands.
    c. Cut the wool to the desired length with a pair of snips while wearing gardening gloves.
2. Twist the wool and fold it twice to form a bud that you are able to scrub with.

Correctly Using a Trigger

Your ability to apply an even wet coat of “Stripper” is critical for the success of the project. The aim is to produce an **even wet coat** that is neither a flood nor a drought; the evenness being easily seen as a reflection in the light, practice the method explained below until you are confident enough to start.

Important: **If pressure builds up in the applicator bottle, the nozzle has the potential to drip. During use avoid putting the applicator bottle down on any surface that might be damaged.**

a. The nozzle on the end of the trigger will need to be adjusted to achieve the correct spray pattern. Pump the trigger to test the spray pattern, adjust accordingly.
b. Several brisk pumps are required to build up pressure in the trigger head so that the correct spray pattern is achieved, once the trigger is spraying correctly move your wrist and arm at the same time the trigger is being squeezed. This is similar to the way a spray painter would work.
c. Multiple light coats will produce a far better result by deeply penetrating the paint.
d. Heavy applications will run off a vertical surface, wasting product & causing a mess.
e. Keep the liquid levels in the bottles as full as possible to improve the product flow.
f. At the end of any work period where triggers have been used, tip any unused product back into there respective containers. Rinse out the Strippers Applicator bottle with Flusher, then pump 5 – 10 pumps of Flusher through the trigger, discard of any Flusher that is left in the Strippers Applicator bottle, then finally pump the Triggers until they suck air.

Compressed Air Applicator

On larger projects like exterior weather boards, the performance of a Compressed Air Applicator may prove to be a real advantage to the productivity of your stripping project.
Fill the applicator with 1 litre of liquid, then pressurise with compressed air and you have a portable hand held sprayer. The following are some of the advantages:

- Larger area that can be worked on between refills.
- Faster application.
- No hand fatigue.
- No hoses to restrict working area.
- No hoses to clean.

Important: **Avoid nozzle blockages by ensuring the stripper is free from any debris, also clean daily with flusher to avoid any wax build ups inside the container. Before re-filling de-pressurise carefully the container by loosening the filler cap.**

Scrubbing Techniques

a. When scrubbing with steel wool, brushes or nylon pads always ensure the surface being scrubbed stays wet with the product being used.
b. Always scrub in the direction of the grain with a medium pressure.
c. When scrubbing with a brush, only use the tips of the bristles during the scrubbing process, this will allow for the tips of the bristles to get into the open grain of timber like Oak as well as into grooves, corners and curves.

Wiping Techniques

a. Always use a clean, dry, lint free, disposable cloth.
b. When removing stripping residues from the timber, always roll the cloth as you wipe to avoid pushing the residue back into the substrate.

Brush Maintenance

a. Don’t scrub to hard with the brushes as the bristles will permanently bend over.
b. The best time to clean the bristles is while the gunge is still wet. Simply spray “Flusher” into the bristles & with a sharp tap, smack the bristle onto a hard surface, the gunge should fall out.
c. If any gunge dries in the bristles, comb the bristles through a wire brush.

Unforeseen Stripping Results

The following is an explanation of a number of possible **"Unforeseen Stripping Results"** with our recommended first course of action to remedy them. Often the complete removal of the blemish is not necessary to improve the timber to an acceptable standard.

- **Paint in the grain:** This is where paint pigment has remained in the grain at the end of Step 6's Rinsing Phase, this can normally be removed by repeating Steps 4 – 6, but this time ensuring that Grit Embedded Nylon Pads & or soft bristled brushes are used to scrub with. On the rare occasion that unwanted pigment still remains this is deemed to be **"Permanent Pigment",** see below for a possible remedy.

- **Badly coloured filler:** This is where the existing filler that has been used to fill nail holes etc does not blend close enough to the finished look of the stripped piece of timber. The old filler will need to be removed and filled again. See **"Filling Small Holes in Timber".** (Pg 7)

- **Borer holes:** A borer hole that is clean and empty is best left alone, a borer hole that is full of old paint or incorrectly coloured filler will need to have the contents removed & re filled. See **"Filling Holes".** (Pg 7)

- **Water stain:** Where water has sat against the timber for an extended period of time, resulting in an unsightly stain. See **"Grain Enhancing".** (Pg 6) Alternatively, a small mark can often be removed by lightly **'Shaving"** the surface. (Pg 6)

- **Mould:** A black marking where the old finish has broken away exposing the timber to the elements for an extended period of time. See **"Grain Enhancing**". (Pg 6) Alternatively, a small mark can often be removed by lightly **'Shaving"** the surface. (Pg 6)

- **Rust marks:** Similar in appearance to mould, rust marks are caused by steel being exposed to water. A common example of rust is where a latch is attached to a window sash. See **"Grain Enhancing".** (Pg 6)

- **Sun bleach:** Common on front doors where the timber has been exposed to direct sunlight for an extended period of time. See **"Grain Enhancing".** (Pg 6)

- **Dip strip blanch:** Similar in appearance to sun bleached timber, the chemicals in a hot caustic dip bath can remove the natural colour from the outer surface of the timber, leaving it blanched and dead looking. See **"Grain Enhancing".** (Pg 6)

- **Furred grain:** For timber to "Fur" while using Cooper's products, the timber will usually have been over exposed to either the sun or a dip stripping process. Timber that has "furred" becomes very fluffy on the surface; this is the result of the outer layer of timber no longer having enough structural integrity to hold itself together. Some timbers such as Fijian Kauri are more susceptible than others to this situation. The remedy is to remove the outer layer of furred timber. See **"Shaving".** (Pg 6)

- **Scorch marks:** This is where the fibres of the timber have been permanently scorched by the incorrect use of a heat process to remove the paint, for example a heat gun or blow torch.
  The remedy for this is to remove the scorched layer of timber. See **"Shaving".** (Pg 6)

- **Cross sanding:** This is where the timber has been sanded in a direction not inline with the grain. This may have been done at the time of manufacture or when the timber was previously stripped. The remedy for this is to remove the cross sanded layer of timber. See **"Shaving".** (Pg 6)

- **Machine marks:** Often timber mouldings or wall linings made from T & G were only machined before they were finished, that is they were never sanded. Often the resulting machine marks look perfectly fine and in character but on occasion they do not & will need to be removed by **"Shaving"** (Pg 6).

- **Scraper marks:** When stripping is done with a flat edged scraper blade, the ends can easily gouge the timber surface. The remedy for this is to remove the gouged area of timber. See **"Shaving".** (Pg 6)

- **Permanent pigment:** In some cases a small amount of paint or stain residue might remain in the grain, this usually enhances the restored character *(Patina)* of the timber, however if the pigment is not to your liking the situation can be dealt with in two ways as follows:
  - To disguise the pigment you can stain it. See **"Timber Staining"** (Pg 11)
  - Remove some or all of the pigmented layer of timber. See **"Shaving".** (Pg 6)

Grain Enhancing

Grain Enhancing is done to remove or improve water stains, mould, rust marks, sun bleach or dip strip blanch.
NOTE: Due to grain damage that already exists with "Sun bleached" or "Dip stripped" timber, this process can sometimes cause the grain to fur. In these cases the fur will need to be removed by shaving or sanding.

1. **Mix**
    a. Put 1-3 scoops of Grain Enhancer into a throw away container.
    b. Add approx 1 cup of boiling water into the container & stir to dissolve the crystals.
2. **Bathe**
    a. While as close to boiling as possible brush the dissolved Grain Enhancer onto the timber surface that is to be treated. (Apply to the complete component so that the effect is kept even.)
    b. Keep the surface wet for five minutes by applying more liquefied "Grain Enhancer" to the surface when needed.
3. **Scrub**
    a. Scrub the entire surface of the component with a nylon abrasive pad or a soft Bristled brush.
    b. Leave on for approximately ten minutes.
    c. Wipe the surface dry with a clean dry cloth.
4. **Rinse**
    a. Brush clean boiling water onto the surface that was treated with a clean brush, and then scrub with the clean nylon abrasive pad or soft bristled brush, then immediately wipe dry with a clean absorbent cloth.
5. **Check:**
    The colour the timber is when wet, is the colour the timber will be when finished.
    a. If the wet colour is satisfactory, leave the surface to dry.
    b. If the wet colour is not satisfactory, repeat steps 1 – 5.
    c. If the desired results are not achieved within a couple of attempts, discontinue the treatment and use the **"Shaving"** procedure (See: Pg 6)
    d. Once the surface has dried feel the surface with your fingers to find out if the grain has risen. (A rough bristled / furry feeling).
    e. If the grain has risen, lightly dry buff the surface in the direction of the grain with either a **"Grit Embedded Nylon Pad",** 320 grit aluminium oxide abrasive paper or with a wad of **"Steel Wool"** (If steel wool is being used ensure the area isn't a wet area for example a front door, in these cases substitute 320 grit aluminium oxide abrasive paper.)
    f. If the timber has furred, sand the effected component or use the **"Shaving"** procedure (See: Pg 6)

Shaving

Shaving is a technique where by the **"4 Edged Blade"** is used to remove ultra thin layers of timber to reduce or remove timber blemishes.

The following are typical examples of the types of blemish that shaving is useful for:

Furred grain, Scorch marks, Cross sanding, Machine marks, Scraper marks, Permanent pigment, Water stain, mould

Method

1. **Shave**
    a. While holding the blade, slide the shorter curved edge along the blemished area of the timber surface in the direction of the grain.
    b. Use only enough pressure to cause a fine shaving, (almost dust) to come away. The idea is to use many light strokes to remove only a minimal amount of timber, so that the blemish is slowly reduced to a point where it blends with the rest of the piece.

Warning: An area that is over shaved, can take on a new appearance that will clash with the surrounding areas.

2. **Burnish**
    a. Using a piece of dry **"Steel Wool",** dry buff the area that has been shaved.
    Note: If the area being worked on is a wet area, for example a front door, substitute 320 grit aluminium oxide abrasive paper or a **"Grit Embedded Nylon Pad".**)

Heat Gunning

- When thick multiple coats of paint exist; a heat gun can remove the bulk of what is on the surface, reducing the amount of paint that is left to remove, as well as the amount of "Stripper" that is used.
- However the use of a heat gun posses significant health and fire risks, see "Health and Safety" Pg 12
- A heat gun is not for everybody, if you do not master this technique quickly or the paint does not come away easily, do not continue with the "Heat Gun".
- Avoid trying to strip absolutely everything with the heat gun as it is easy to scorch or scratch the timber when doing this.

Heat gun by using the following steps:

a. Use the heat gun to soften a section of paint by moving the heat backwards & forwards over it so that the flexible putty knife is able to slide under the paint.
b. Keep the heat moving just in front of the blade so that the blade is able to keep moving.
c. Use an old spoon upside down when working on curved mouldings.
d. When complete allow the surface to cool before applying "Stripper"

Notes:

a. **Refer to the "Health & Safety" section (Pg: 12)** for important lead paint removal information.
b. Use an electronically controlled (adjustable heat) 2 KW gun & a 50 mm flexible putty knife.
c. Keep the heat moving to avoid scorching the timber, if the paint starts to turn black you are too close or the heat is set too high.
d. Adjust the heat intensity on the gun to a point where the paint starts to soften.
e. Keep the angle of the putty knife low against the wood to avoid stabbing the wood.
f. A lead rated respirator should be worn when heat gunning.
g. Keep the heat gun away from flammable materials during & after use while the gun is hot.

Some paints do not heat gun well. If you do not master this technique or the paint just does not seem to want to easily come away, do not continue with the heat Gun.

Filling Small Holes (5mm) in timber with a "Wax Filler Stick"

1. Apply the 1st coat of your chosen timber finish

a. If you are using a finish that dries, allow it to dry before moving onto step 2
b. If you are using Cooper's Moisturiser, allow it to absorb for a few hours before moving onto step 2

2. Prepare the holes to fill

a. Dig out any old filler that does not blend with the surrounding timbers colour or that has started to crumble in the hole, the hole should be no more than 5 mm across in size, ensure the hole is dry.

3. Fill the hole with a "Wax Filler Stick"

a. Select the colour of "Wax Filler Stick" (See Cooper's Range) that resembles the colour of the timber. A little darker is better than lighter.
b. Using a medium level of pressure, rub the "Wax Filler Stick" vigorously back & forth across the hole, in the direction of the grain, until the hole fills completely.
c. As no drying time is required, you can remove the excess wax immediately by lightly rubbing over the excess filler with a dry nylon abrasive pad.

4. Check the colour match

a. If the colour match is close enough the filling is done.
b. If the colour match is not close enough, dig it out and try another colour.

5. Continue with the finishing process

Finishing Timber with "Moisturiser"

"Moisturiser is a timber finishing product that produces a mellow glow.

Being non skin forming, "Moisturiser" will condition the timber to repel dirt and moisture. With simple periodic maintenance the finish actually improves as a rich natural patina develops over time.

Warning!

<u>Do Not</u> use 'Moisturiser' if it is your intention to finish the timber with Paint or a clear coating (e.g. Polyurethane).

If Paint or a clear coating is applied on top of a moisturised surface it will delaminate (peal).

General Information:

- **Trial 1st to establish suitability:** Ensure you trial the "Moisturiser" first to decide it's suitability for your project.
- 'Moisturiser' is suited to many indoor applications and is not affected by ambient temperature, humidity or dusty conditions.
- **Floors: <u>Do Not</u>** use moisturiser on a **'Newly Sanded'** (Pg: 9) **floor.**
- Avoid contact with absorbent surfaces other than your timber. I.e. wallpaper, fabrics, low gloss painted surfaces, unfinished wallboard.
- **Steel Wool Advice:** Do not use "Moisturiser" on a wet interior surface such as in a bathroom that has been prepared using "Steel Wool" as metal fragments may be left and will rust and discolour the surface.
- **Check timber colour:** Check the finished colour of the timber to see if additional colour is required. To do this, wet a section of the stripped surface with "Flusher", the wet colour is a good indicator of the finished colour. If more colour is desired go to "Staining Timber" section. **(Pg. 11)**

Finishing 'Stripped' Timber with Moisturiser

- The term **'Stripped'** means timber that has been stripped using the Cooper's Restoration System, which results in no sanding being required before refinishing.

1. Apply "Moisturiser"

a. Brush / Spray / Roll on a wet coat of "Moisturiser" to all the stripped surfaces.
b. "Moisturiser" does not dry, so there is no need to be as particular about perfect brush technique or not allowing dust to get on the surface, as you would when applying polyurethane or paint.

2. Wait 1 or more days

a. Keep the surface wet with "Moisturiser" until the timber stops absorbing.
b. Re-Apply as necessary to any areas where it has fully absorbed (a fully absorbed area will not have a wet reflection)
c. **Fill holes with a coloured "Wax Filler Stick"**
   - If you decide to fill a hole that is unsightly, go to the "Filling Holes" section. (Pg. 7)
   - If the existing filler or blemish looks fine, leave it and move onto the next stage.

3. Wipe off surplus 'Moisturiser', then buff till the surface glows

a. Remove the surplus "Moisturiser" sitting on the timbers surface with a dry soft absorbent cloth.
b. Buff the surface to a soft glow with clean dry lint free soft absorbent cloth.

Finishing 'Newly Sanded' Timber with Moisturiser

- The term **'Newly Sanded'** refers to timber that has been recently sanded, whether the timber is recently milled or has been recycled.

- The glow that is produced after finally buffing the timber surface (See pg: 9, step 3, above) is in fact the light reflecting off the surface, for this to happen the standard of sanding needs to be higher than for other finishes.

- If significant sanding was required to remove an existing blemish or the project is part or fully made with new / recycled timber, ensure the timber is finely sanded to at least 320 grit and **'Partially Sealed'** with a coat of **'Semi Sealer'** see below (Steps1 – 3), before finishing with **'Moisturiser'** see above (Steps1 – 3)

Partially Sealing Newly Sanded Timber with Semi Sealer

1. Apply 'Semi Sealer'

a. Brush a thick coat of "Semi Sealer" onto the timber

2. Wait 10 minutes…

… for the timber to absorb all the "Semi Sealer" it can

3. Buff the Surface Dry

a. Using a clean dry absorbent cloth buff any surplus 'Semi Sealer' from the timber.

Warning: The cloth used to remove the excess "Semi Sealer" should be hung out flat on a cloths line to dry or incinerated, as it is possible for the cloth to self combust as it dries.

4. Leave two days

- Leave 2 days for the "Semi Sealer" to dry before finishing with 'Moisturiser' as described above (Steps1 – 3)

MAINTAINING A MOISTURISED SURFACE

Patina: The patina is the result of the way the timber surface responds to its environment. The moisturiser at the surface traps the majority of the dirt and contaminants that might have otherwise entered the timber. Over time a small amount of the dirt and grime pigments transfer into the timber fibre contributing to a permanent richer look. Each time the wood is cleaned and revived, the improved patina becomes more apparent.

When maintaining a Moisturised surface, choose one of the following procedures.

Cleaning

- Sticky finger marks and the like are easily removed by wiping the timber with a soft cloth that has been damped with warm water & a drop of detergent.

Dusting

- Although the natural appearance conceals dust and dirt well, it is very simple to dust and polish whenever you like by buffing the timber with a soft cloth that has been damped with a small amount of “Moisturiser”.

Light Duty Reviving

- When the surface has dried out or becomes dirty, repeat steps 1 - 3 of the Moisturisers Application Method (Pg: 9)
- Approximately 5 – 10 minutes after re-applying the “Moisturiser”, scrub the surface with a medium course nylon abrasive pad. (This is done to break up light levels of dust and grime.)

Heavy Duty Reviving

- The ‘Heavy Duty Reviving’ procedure is ideal for removing hard to remove grime that the ‘Light Duty Reviving’ process did not succeed on.
- Heavy Duty Reviving’ is also ideal for removing mould and paint splatters from your finished timber as well as “Moisturiser” that has got onto windows.

1. Spray “Flusher” onto the affected area while scrubbing with a “Grit Embedded Nylon Pad” or a “Soft Bristled Brush”.
2. While the surface is still wet, remove the gunge using a soft dry absorbent cloth in a rolling action.
    - A squeegee can also be used for this process.
3. Check to see if the desired result has been achieved and repeat if necessary.
4. Once the timber has dried Re-finish the surface with Moisturiser (See Pg: 9, Steps 1 - 3)

Removing a watermark

- The nature of a moisturised surface is to repel moisture, on the chance the surface does sustain a water mark this is a result of the grain swelling where it was exposed.

- To remove a minor water mark and to lessen the chance of this happening again, the entire component (window ledge for example) needs to be scrubbed with boiling water.

1. Brush boiling water onto the entire effected surface and immediately scrub the surface using a “Grit Embedded Nylon Pad”.
    - Concentrate mainly on the mark.
    - In hard to reach areas or on open grained wood use a clean Copper Bristled Brush.
2. When the mark has disappeared, wipe the surface dry with an old towel.
3. Once the timber has dried Re-finish the surface with Moisturiser (See Pg: 9, Steps 1 - 3)

NOTE: If the water mark does not disappear to an acceptable level using this procedure try using the “Grain Enhancing” procedure. (See Pg: 6)

Staining Timber

"Patina Colouring"

This colouring method is an ideal way of adding colour in a way that looks natural.

1. Mix Stain into "Semi Sealer"

a. Mix a small amount first to trial; add more stain if a darker colour is required.
b. Mix a spirit based stain (NGR) into "Semi Sealer" at a ratio of 10% Stain to 90% "Semi Sealer".

2. Brush on a thick coat

a. Brush a thick coat of the tinted "Semi Sealer" onto the timber.

3. Wait ten minutes

a. Wait 10 minutes for the timber to absorb all the tinted "Semi Sealer" it can.

4. Buff Dry

a. Buff the surface with a clean dry cloth to remove any surplus oil.
b. The colour the wood is when it is 1st buffed will be an indicator of its finished colour.
   Warning: The cloth used to remove the excess "Semi Sealer" should be hung out flat on a clothes line to dry or incinerate, as it is possible for the cloth to self combust as it dries.

5. Wait 2 days

a. Leave 2 days for the tinted "Semi Sealer" that is left in the timber to dry before proceeding with the 1st stage of **"Finishing Stripped Timber with Moisturiser".** (Pg: 9)

"Direct Colouring"

This colouring method is an ideal way of adding colour in a way that is obvious. Trial the colour on a not so obvious section of the project being stained. Any type of timber stain can be used for this method except for fence & house stains due to the fact that they are complete finishes in their own right.

1. Apply Stain

a. Pour some timber stain into a container.
b. Dip the balled up end of a rag into the stain & work the stain into the timber by wiping the surface of the timber in the direction of the grain.
c. The wet colour is the finished colour.
d. Do not work across the grain.

2. Leave to dry

a. Leave the stain to dry for its recommended time.

3. Brush on "Semi Sealer"

a. Pour an amount of straight "Semi Sealer" into a container.
b. Brush a thick coat of "Semi Sealer" onto the timber.

4. Wait ten minutes

a. Wait 10 minutes for the timber to absorb all the "Semi Sealer" it can.

5. Buff Dry

a. Buff the surface with a clean dry cloth to remove the surplus oil.
   Warning: The cloth used to remove the excess "Semi Sealer" should be hung out flat on a clothes line to dry or incinerate, as it is possible for the cloth to self combust as it dries.

6. Wait two days

a. Leave 2 days for the "Semi Sealer" that is left in the timber to dry before proceeding with the 1st stage of **"Finishing Stripped Timber with Moisturiser".** (Pg: 9)

HEALTH and SAFETY

Ensure your become aware of any health & safety requirements before use by reading the individual product labels.

Safety Equipment:

The nature of stripping would deem it prudent to protect yourself from inhaling or being touched by the stripping products. The following is a general guide to the sort of precautions that should be taken.

- Industrial strength barrier cream (for any exposed skin) - Solvent resistant gloves - Safety glasses - Respirators for organic solvents & for lead paint when using a heat gun , or for when adequate ventilation does not exist.

Lead Paint Removal

Unless you absolutely know the paint that is being removed has no lead assume lead paint is present and adopt safe removal practices.

Wet Stripping (Safest method)

- An example of this is the Cooper's Restoration System. Cooper's is a wet process which creates no dust and will leave no residue of paint in the grain (that may contain lead) that would otherwise need to be sanded.

Heat Gun Stripping (Recommended with caution)

- Medium level fire hazard.
- Timber scorching potential in an inexperienced person's hand.
- Medium level lead poisoning risk, the area being worked on must be ventilated and lead masks worn by people in the area.
- Any paint that is left attached to the substrate must be wet stripped, (See above)

Naked Flame Stripping (Not Recommended)

- High level, fire hazard.
- High timber scorching potential, no matter what the experience of the person is.
- High level lead poisoning risk, the area being worked on must be ventilated and lead masks worn by people in the area.
- Any paint that is left attached to the substrate must be wet stripped, (See above)

Scraping, sanding or sandblasting. (Not recommended)

- High lead poisoning risk, lead dust easily migrates around the home causing ongoing exposure to occupants. Most vacuum cleaners do not provide adequate filtering and simply redistribute the lead.

All methods of lead paint stripping must allow for the collection and disposal of the lead in a way that conforms to local authority regulations.

Ventilation:

- In the room you are working in, open a door and a window that are at opposite sides of the room to each other and place a fan (more if needed) facing out the window. This will force the air from the room and will stop air from the room entering the rest of the building.

Steel Wool:

- To avoid cutting yourself never attempt to tear the wool with your hands.
- Cut the wool to the desired length with a pair of snips while wearing gardening gloves.
- The protective coating on the wool is flammable.
- Do not use wool near a live electrical source.

Other people:

- Keep the products away from children & pets.
- Be mindful of the welfare of others in the surrounding area.

Fire, Storage & Insurance:

- Do not spray any Cooper products near a naked flame.
- Store unopened product in another area to where you are working.
- Have available for immediate use a class 3 rated fire extinguisher in an appropriate location.
- We recommend that you inform your insurance company that you are renovating as in some cases this can affect your policy.
- **Cold weather:** In cold weather some of the waxes in the "Stripper" can solidify & fall out of suspension, clogging the filters & jets on the triggers. Warm the "Stripper" if needed by sitting the container of "Stripper" into warm water. Ideally the "Stripper" should be used at between 15 – 30 degrees C, Ensure you loosen the container lid before warming to allow pressure to escape and then retighten afterwards.

Notes:

Notes:

Simon Says…

Thanks for choosing my "Stripping System" for your project. I know you're going to be impressed with the results your going to get.

I strongly recommend you forget all you know about other paint stripper, it'll just get you into trouble!

Take some time read this guide, it makes great bed time reading, learn how easy stripping really can be, you'll soon see that sanding truly is a thing of the past.

I can't stress enough when stripping the need to be patient, to let the products do their work.

As the "Stripper Man" I'm committed to you getting the results you want and to that end should you need any help, call one of the helpful people at Cooper's.

But above all, "Enjoy the Process", stripping with Cooper's really is Easy!

Cheers,

Simon

Remember, a Cooper's expert is only a phone call away.

Manufactured By

Manufactured under licence by Specialist Restoration Supplies Ltd
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Conditions of Sale

Specialist Restoration Supplies Ltd provide their products and methods on the basis that the client takes the responsibility of satisfying themselves that the products branded "Cooper's Restoration System" meets their needs. Specialist Restoration Supplies Ltd does not accept any liability for any damage to property or personal injury to the user or others. It is the responsibility of the client to acquaint themselves with all procedures, health and safety and storage recommendations in this publication.