

# RUBIO MONOCOAT “HYBRID WOOD PROTECTOR”

General guidelines for the initial application, cleaning, and maintenance

## Initial Preparation

### A. Previously finished wood:

Previously coated wood surfaces (different than RMC Hybrid Wood Protector) need to be stripped down to bare wood for best performance results before the application of RMC Hybrid Wood Protector.

**Step 1:** Remove all existing coating down to bare wood. Sanding may be an effective method, or you may use a chemical paint stripper.

**Step 2:** When a chemical paint stripper is selected to strip the previously applied coating, allow the substrate to dry after completion of that process, follow the manufacturer's recommendations. Some additional sanding may be required to clean up and smooth the surface to remove the "fuzzy" like appearance from raised wood grain fibers.

For very dense hardwood species like IPE, or other very dense exotic hardwoods, sanding with 60-80 grit sandpaper will open the grain. Too fine sandpaper (over 120 grit) will close the grain and inhibit good coating penetration of Hybrid Wood Protector on exterior wood finishing projects.

**Step 3:** Once the deck or other wood surface is stripped/sanded, clean the substrate well using [RMC “Exterior Wood Cleaner.”](#) First, dampen the wood substrate with clean water, apply the cleaning solution liberally, keep the wood wet with the cleaning solution for at least 10 minutes, and scrub with a scrubbing brush/broom.

Immediately rinse with clean water until all foaming stops. Work in manageable sections to avoid the cleaning solution to dry before rinsing off.

**Step 4:** Next, allow the wood to dry completely, until it is below 18% MC before applying [RMC “Hybrid Wood Protector.”](#)

*Note: Once the wood surface is sufficiently prepared, apply RMC Hybrid Wood Protector within a week for all horizontal wood substrates, and within 3-4 weeks on vertical exposed wood substrates.*

### **B. New or weathered wood:**

New, smooth-planed wood does not allow proper penetration of any wood-finish since the high-speed planing process leaves a smooth but closed wood substrate. This very smooth and closed wood surface is commonly known as "planer-crush" or "Millglaze." Such a wood surface needs to get prepared sufficiently before a wood coating is applied. Also, weathered wood needs to be cleaned with [RMC "Exterior Wood Cleaner"](#) before applying HWP to ensure the best coating performance and appearance.

*Note: New, water-repellant pressure-treated wood must be allowed to dry and season for approximately 12 months before starting surface preparation and coating.*

**Step 1:** First, mist the wood substrate with clean water, apply the cleaning solution liberally, keep the wood wet with the cleaning solution for at least 10 minutes, and scrub vigorously with a stiff-bristled scrubbing brush/broom. Next, immediately rinse with clean water until all foaming stops. Work in manageable areas to avoid the cleaning solution to dry.

**Step 2:** Allow the cleaned wood to dry until it is below 18% before applying [RMC "Hybrid Wood Protector" \(HWP\)](#).

**Step 3:** *Optional*, additional sanding may be performed to smooth the cleaned wood substrate, do not use too fine-grit sandpaper finer than 120 grit. Hard and dense exotic wood species like IPE or deck floors must be sanded with a courser grit (60-80).

## **Initial Coating process:**

**Step 1:** Stir the contents of HWP in the can, dispersing any settled pigmentation

**Step 2:** Add one bottle (100ML size) of **RMC Accelerator B** to **1 liter of HWP**.

**Step 3:** Mix in the Accelerator B well. Once mixed, be sure to apply the mixed product within 4-5 hours. Do not mix more material than you can apply in that period!

**Step 4:** Apply enough HWP to cover a few boards at a time. Use a mohair roller or a good quality paintbrush and apply a little product on each board. Work the product into the boards using a good quality paintbrush or a white scrubbing pad. For smaller projects, scrub with a white **Rubio scrubby pad** in a circular motion to work the product into the wood. For a successful application, apply the product to the wood surface, work it in well, and allow it to work-in for a few minutes. Within 5-10 minutes, go over the freshly oiled surface again with a “dry” brush or white scrubby pad, and "dry-brush/scrub" the oiled surface until it appears even without puddled product.

**Step 5:** Where excess oil remains on the oiled wood surface, it is needed to remove this by repeating the "dry-brush" step until the oiled wood surface appears even. You may use a rag to remove excess applied oil.

When you wipe over a correctly oiled surface you should pick up just a little oil on your fingertips.

*Do Not allow excess applied product to puddle on the wood surface!*

**Step 6:** Allow the oiled surface to dry completely--until it does not feel sticky anymore. Wait long enough before exposing to use or foot traffic and placing items on the surface; this usually takes 24-36 hours under favorable drying conditions. Cold temperatures and high humidity will slow down good drying and curing.

**Note:** *Make sure that there will not be precipitation during the application and the initial drying of the product.*

*Do not apply HWP in direct, hot sunlight. Favorable application conditions are when air and surface temperature is between 50° F (10° C) –90° F (32° C) with an average RH of 50%. Lower temperatures and/or higher humidity will delay drying and curing.*

## **Care and Maintenance**

A Rubio Hybrid Wood Protector finished wood substrate needs to be cleaned and maintained from time to time to maintain the aesthetics and protection of the wood.

**Horizontal Surfaces:** A maintenance coat of HWP is generally needed yearly after the initial application. The maintenance coat is to be applied before the weather becomes unsuitable (even if it has been less than one year since the initial application).

**Vertical Surfaces:** A maintenance coat of HWP on vertical exposures is less often required. The severity of exposure determines the frequency. Typically, a Southern/Western exposure gets a lot of weather exposure and needs a maintenance application sooner than on Northern/Eastern exposures. Expect a maintenance coat on the most weather-exposed sides within 2-3 years.

Follow the guidelines outlined below:

### **CLEANING**

Clean the surface periodically with **clean water** with the aid of a medium stiff scrubbing brush to loosen stubborn dirt. Rinse off with clean water.

**Routinely:** Apply **RMC Exterior Soap** to clean and nourish the oiled wood surface. Exterior Soap contains oil which nourishes the weathered Hybrid Wood Protector periodically before a maintenance application is needed.

**Step 1:** Shake the bottle of RMC Exterior Soap well, dilute 1-part of Exterior Soap with 3-parts of clean water.

**Step 2:** Apply/spray this mixture to the rinsed off but still damp surface and rub with RMC Soap solution dampened cloth or mop.

**Step 3:** Allow to dry for at least 30 minutes before use or walking on the treated surface.

## **MAINTENANCE APPLICATION**

Once the finished wood shows weathering, a maintenance application of RMC HWP is required. The surface needs to be cleaned and prepared correctly before applying a maintenance application of RMC HWP.

**Step 1:** Clean the wood surface thoroughly with a solution of [RMC “Exterior Wood Cleaner.”](#)

- For lightly weathered/soiled surfaces: dilute 1-part cleaner with 2-parts clean water.
- For medium weathered/soiled surfaces: dilute 1-part cleaner to 1-part clean water.
- Use straight/without dilution for very dirty or distressed surfaces.

**Step 2:** First, dampen the surface of the wood with clean water. Apply the Exterior Wood Cleaner solution to the water-dampened wood surface and keep it wet with the cleaning solution.

**Step 3:** Scrub with a scrubbing brush or a non-abrasive scrubbing pad.

**Step 4:** Immediately rinse thoroughly with plenty of clean water until all foaming is rinsed off, and the surface looks clean and bright.

**Step 5:** Allow to dry completely.

**Step 6:** Stir the HWP in the can dispersing in any settled pigmentation.

**Step 7:** Mix the required amount of HWP with Accelerator B in a 10:1 ratio (10-parts Oil to 1-part B) and mix well.

**Step 8:** Apply the HWP to the cleaned surface with a good quality brush or non-abrasive white scrubbing pad and brush/scrub in well.

**Step 9:** Allow to sit for about 10 minutes and go over the oiled surface one

more time, without adding more product, working the oil into the surface.

**Step 10:** Remove excess applied product from the surface with a dry white scrubby pad or rag until it appears even.

**Step 11:** Allow at least 24-36 hours before allowing use or foot traffic.

**Note: make sure to dispose of oil-contaminated rags/absorbing materials and pads properly to prevent spontaneous combustion, do not place them in the trash!**