

Sashco's Stain SWITCHING GUIDE

This guide provides some simple principles for switching stains. For project-specific guidance, reach out to our friendly, trained, and phone-tree-free Customer Service team at **800-767-5656** or **orders@sashco.com**.

Required Prep When Stain is in **Poor Shape**

(30-40% of stain is significantly degraded or peeling and/or there's significant bare or gray wood.)

Ideal Land	Next Best Land	Don't Go There Land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remove everything that's on the surface now via dry blasting and/or chemical wash (degreaser) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remove ALL oils and waxes ✓ Remove 80%+ everything except the stuff that's still holding tightly ✓ Use Osborn® brushes to remove as much of the remaining 20% as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do a quick power wash to clean the surface, leave everything else as-is, and hope for the best <p>(Spray and pray, y'all!)</p>

Required Prep When Stain is in **OK Shape**

(Stain looks faded, but isn't loose or peeling and there's minimal bare or gray wood.)

Ideal Land	Next Best Land	Don't Go There Land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Remove everything that's on the surface now via dry blasting and/or chemical wash (degreaser) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Wash ALL oils and waxes from the surface ✓ Do a light power wash to remove anything degraded ✓ Use Osborn® brushes to remove any gray wood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do a quick power wash to clean the surface, leave everything else as-is, and hope for the best <p>(Spray and pray, y'all!)</p>

Required Prep When Stain is in **Good Shape**

(Stain looks a bit tired but is still intact. There is no bare or gray wood.)

Ideal Land	Next Best Land	Don't Go There Land
<p>✓ Power wash with a degreaser and antimicrobial cleaner to remove surface contaminants, waxes, and oils</p>	<p>✓ Power wash with a degreaser and antimicrobial cleaner to remove surface contaminants, waxes, and oils</p>	<p>✓ Stain over whatever is on there with no wash down. (Once again, spray and pray, y'all! A wash down is important, no matter which route you go.)</p>

Technology SWITCHING GUIDE

Technology Type	Basic Switching Guide
<p>Surface Stain to Surface Stain</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ If in bad shape, remove as much of the existing stain as possible. ✓ If there are remnants left over (keep it to no more than 20%), not a big deal. Those areas won't usually interfere with proper performance of the new product. ✓ Those remnants will show through the new stain, so sample to make sure the look is acceptable. Darker colors hide better. Also, these areas will fail first, if failure happens. <p><i>If in good shape, try to do maintenance with the existing product. If that product isn't available, you can apply a coat of the same technology over top, but watch for spot areas of peeling over time. Peeling risk is low, but still present.</i></p>

Technology Type

Basic Switching Guide

Drying Oil to Surface Stain



- ✓ If in bad shape, remove as much of the existing stain as possible.
- ✓ If there are remnants left over (keep it to no more than 20%), not a big deal. Those areas won't usually interfere with proper performance of the new product.
- ✓ Those remnants will show through the new stain, so sample to make sure the look is acceptable. Darker colors hide better. Also, these areas will fail first, if failure happens.

If in good shape, it's not time to switch. It's time to do maintenance with the existing product.

Drying Oil to Drying Oil



- ✓ Remove as much of the existing product as possible. The new product cannot penetrate through remaining stain and may not wet out the surface properly.
- ✓ Remnants (no more than 20%) are not usually a big deal, as long as the existing product contains no waxes or silicones.
- ✓ Any remnants will show through the new, so sample after prep over the remnants to make sure the look is acceptable. Darker colors hide better.
- ✓ Flexibility may be an issue. Transformation Log & Timber is flexible. Others are not. This could lead to small areas of peeling, so be on the look out.

If in good shape, try to do maintenance with the existing product. If that product isn't available, you can apply a coat of the same technology over top, but watch for spot areas of peeling over time. Peeling risk is low, but still present.

Non-Drying Oil to Surface Stain



- ✓ **Don't do it.** Switch only to a shallow-penetrating oil like Transformation Log & Timber.
- ✓ If you MUST switch (VOC laws or personal health require it), removing all existing stain via blasting and a degreaser + power wash is critical. (You'll get major peeling otherwise.)
- ✓ Apply Colorfast to help mitigate some of those oils coming to the surface again. *Not a guarantee, but helps lower the risk of peeling significantly.*

Surface Stain to Hybrid Stain



- ✓ If in bad shape, remove as much of the existing stain as possible.
- ✓ If there are remnants left over (keep it to no more than 20%), not a big deal. Those areas won't usually interfere with proper performance of the new product.
- ✓ Those remnants will show through the new stain, so sample to make sure the look is acceptable.

If in good shape, it's not time to switch. It's time to do maintenance with the existing product.

Technology Type

Basic Switching Guide

Surface Stain to Drying Oil Stain



✓ Removing all of the existing stain is critical. The oil-based product cannot penetrate through remaining water-based stain and may not wet out the surface properly.

✓ Make sure the oil-based product is compatible with any sealants already on the home. You don't want the new stain interfering with that bond.

If in good shape, it's not time to switch. It's time to do maintenance with the existing product. If you can't find the same product, stay with the same technology – a water-based product – to reduce peeling risks.

Surface Stain or Drying Oil Stain to Non-Drying Oil



✓ Removing all of the existing stain is critical. The oil-based product cannot penetrate through remaining water-based stain and may not wet out the surface properly.

✓ Make sure the oil-based product is compatible with any sealants already on the home. You don't want the new stain interfering with that bond. Since that's virtually impossible with a non-drying oil...

Sashco recommends avoiding non-drying oils on log homes. Risk of caulking and chinking failure is high, so we'd recommend just skipping this switch altogether.

One final word: Switching stains without going to bare wood always comes with some risk.

So do a proper risk assessment up front by testing everything – prep and new product – prior to taking the whole-home leap with a switch. In most cases, it'll be successful. And again, if in doubt, call us. We're happy to talk options and risks for your particular circumstances.