



# Colorfast™

pre-stain base coat



Keep the color the color.

## Color Is King

Everyone knows that color is king on a log home stain job, but pleasing the king can be difficult! Wood porosity differences lead to blotchy, uneven results when staining. UV damage causes the wood to yellow your stain or interior clear coat. That once-perfect color is lost. That's why you need Sashco's Colorfast™. Colorfast™ strengthens the glue that binds the wood cells together, called lignin, preventing yellowing of the underlying wood cells to help you maintain a consistent color year after year. Before staining, Colorfast™ evens out wood porosity, creating a smoother surface for stain application and preventing over-absorption and a too-dark color. After staining, the lignin stabilizers prevent the wood underneath from getting sunburned, leaving the stain or clear coat applied on top looking the same year after year. Colorfast™ provides the ideal canvas for stain application and leaves behind the strong foundation necessary for long-lasting color. It's color confidence for your log home.

## Why use Colorfast™?

- **Keeps the color the color:** Lignin (wood cell glue) stabilizers prevent yellowing and darkening of the wood itself overtime, which in turn prevent color shifts in the stain applied over top. Light colors stay light and darker colors don't shift too dark.
- **Reduces blotchiness:** Fills pores for a smoother surface and more even stain application. Great for blasted, rough-sawn, knotty pine, or milled logs.
- **Prevents picture-frame effect on interior wood:** Apply on bare wood on the interior of the home and under Sashco's Symphony® interior clear coat to avoid yellowing around wall décor.
- **Use under any Sashco stain:** Using oil-based Transformation Log & Timber? Water-based Capture®, Cascade®, or Symphony®? No problem.

- **Easier stain application:** Greatly reduces the need to back-brush the stain applied over top.
- **Great as a log keeper coat:** Prevents mold and yellowing due to UV damage on new wood as it moves from the mill to the job site and throughout construction. Contains both mildewcide and algacide to help preserve the wood until it's time to stain. Or, life happened and you need to wait for a few weeks between prep and staining? No problem.
- **Seal those ends:** When applied heavily on log ends, prevents over-penetration of stain and log ends that are darker than the rest of the logs.

## Do It Right The First Time: Visit [sashco.com/log-home](http://sashco.com/log-home) to:

- Download & read *Restoring the Dream*, Sashco's complete guide to log home refinishing and maintenance
- Watch helpful how-to videos
- Chat live with technical experts

Or, call 800-767-5656 Monday – Friday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. MT to get personalized advice from technical experts.



**INFO SHEET**  
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# Application Instructions

## Exterior Application Instructions

Proper substrate preparation and product application mean greater longevity, a better color, and better long-term performance. Read this full Colorfast™ Info Sheet before applying any product and call us at 800-767-5656 with any project-specific questions.

**1. Make sure it sticks:** If you are changing from one stain product to another, contact us first. Colorfast™ will adhere to almost any surface that is properly prepped. Any product already on the wood, and especially those that contains waxes, non-drying oils, or silicones, will interfere with the adhesion and penetration of Colorfast™ and must be removed before the product is applied.

**2. Clean the surface:** Media blast, power wash, or sand wood surfaces using an Osborn® brush or 60 to 80 grit sandpaper to remove all previous stains and loose, unsound gray or yellow wood fibers, along with mill glaze, pollen, and other surface contaminants. This creates the best surface for Colorfast™ penetration and stain longevity. If mold or algae is present, apply Sashco's CPR® in the brightener strength according to the directions or apply fresh bleach in a 4 parts water to 1 part bleach solution. Allow it to sit no more than 20 minutes, then thoroughly rinse. If necessary, use a chemical remover. (Follow label instructions carefully and ensure wood is back to neutral pH, checking with pH strips.)

**3. Remove fuzz:** For best appearance, remove felting (wood fuzz) with Osborn® brushes, Sashco's Buffy Pad system or 60 to 80 grit sandpaper once the wood is dry. Remove all sawdust with a broom, compressed air, or a leaf blower, or rinse with water.

**4. Apply preservatives:** Apply Tim-bor® according to directions for protection against wood rot and wood-ingesting insects BEFORE Colorfast™ is applied. Allow wood to dry 1–3 days, until wood is at or below 19% moisture content level. (Use a moisture meter to check!)



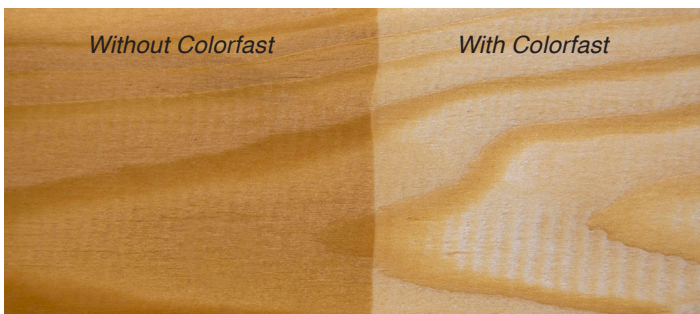
**5. Timing matters:** UV rays from the sun can damage the wood you just worked so hard to prep in as little as 1 week; therefore, Colorfast™ should be applied as soon as possible after wood prep is complete. If cold or rainy weather threaten or delay your staining project, you may apply Colorfast™ and wait up to 8 weeks to apply stain. The mildewcide, algaecide, and lignin stabilizers in Colorfast™ will keep your wood protected during that time. (Score!) Be sure to clean off surface contaminants before staining. If any further sanding prep is needed, remember to reapply Colorfast™ to freshly sanded areas before staining for a consistent finish.

**6. Air and surface temperatures matter:** Plan to apply Colorfast™ when air and surface temps are between 40°– 90°F (4°– 32°C). Use an infrared thermometer to check surface temps. Temps that are too hot dry Colorfast™ too quickly, preventing proper penetration. Temps that are too cold will freeze Colorfast™, preventing both proper penetration and proper curing.

**7. Don't get caught out in the rain:** While Colorfast™ can be stained over as soon as it's dry to the touch (usually in 2 hours or less). Full cure takes longer. A heavy rain could wash off both Colorfast™ and any stains applied over top, requiring extensive prep to remove the mess and reapplication of the product. Avoid rain both on the day of application and for a full 24 hours afterwards. You may also plan to cover surfaces if rain is expected.

**8. Wood must be dry:** Use a moisture meter to make sure wood is at or below 19% moisture content level before applying Colorfast™. Damp wood can prevent Colorfast™ from penetrating properly and also increases the risk of water stains, rot, and peeling stain.

**9. Mix it up:** Thoroughly mix Colorfast™ with a drill-driven, squirrel-cage type mixer. Scrape any settled material off the bottom of the pail and thoroughly mix it in. Stir Colorfast™ every 15–20 minutes throughout application to ensure all ingredients are always mixed in.



### Wood exposed to UV rays for 550 hours.

\*On exteriors, stain over Colorfast™ with a Sashco stain for best durability. On interiors, cover Colorfast™ with Sashco's Symphony® interior clear coat for easy cleaning and a slight sheen.





### Goes on easy.

Left to right: 1. After media blasting, before Colorfast™ application 2. Spraying Colorfast™ 3. Back-brushing Colorfast™ 4. After Colorfast™ application

**10. Spray it on:** Using a large (515+) spray tip on an airless sprayer, apply on one heavy coat of Colorfast™, covering all the wood and inside cracks and checks. If only a brush is used, be sure to drench-apply Colorfast™ to ensure adequate coverage. Don't skimp. Colorfast™ goes on milky white, but don't worry: it dries clear.

**11. Lightly back-brush:** Using a block brush on a pole, lightly brush out Colorfast™ to make sure all the bare wood gets covered, to catch drips, and to coat the insides of every crack and check. Colorfast™ will soak into the wood completely, so don't worry about foaming. Any areas that remain wet (white) after 10 minutes should be brushed into drier areas.

**12. Dry time:** Allow Colorfast™ to dry until clear before applying the final stain over it. Often, this is within 2 hours, but check cracks and checks where it may take longer.

**13. Apply stain:** Once dry, apply two coats of Sashco's Capture®, Transformation Log & Timber, or Transformation Siding & Trim. No matter which stain you use, the first coat will go further, will not penetrate as much, will not require vigorous back-brushing, and will be lighter in color than normal. This is OK! It means that Colorfast™ is working as designed.

*\* Do not apply Colorfast™ to fiber cement, concrete, or other cementitious materials.*

### Interior Application Instructions:

**Interior prep is not as intense:** Surfaces must still be clean and free of contaminants and loose wood fibers, but media blasting and power washing aren't required except in extraordinary circumstances (like the home was flooded or was in a fire). A general rule of thumb on interior wood is to prep the wood the way you want it to feel when finished. On the interior, smoother wood is best and usually desired.

**Spray it:** Apply Colorfast™ the same way you would on exterior wood. Be aware that Colorfast™ will go further on smooth, less porous interior wood.

**Stain it:** Cover Colorfast™ with 1–2 coats of Sashco's Symphony® interior clear coat for easier cleaning, to maintain the original bright wood color, and add a beautiful satin or gloss sheen. Colorfast™ is formulated to prevent interior wood from yellowing. Hooray! If a color is desired, apply 1 coat of Sashco's Capture®, or Transformation Siding & Trim in the color of your choice, followed by 1–2 coats of Symphony®. Download the Symphony® application instructions at [sashco.com/log-home](http://sashco.com/log-home).

### What's Really Important

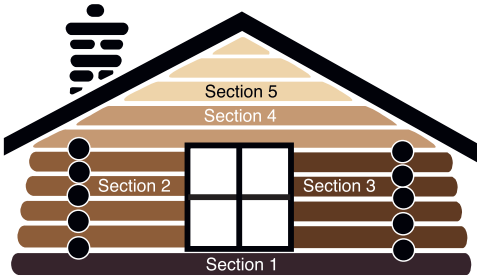
It is well known by painters and stainers everywhere that the single most important factor in the longevity of any staining or painting job is the quality of the prep done beforehand. Clean, sound, warm, dry, and textured wood are the five characteristics of a well-prepped surface.

Download *Restoring the Dream*, Sashco's complete guide to log home refinishing and maintenance for details on these five factors and other keys to a successful and long-lasting (read: let's not ever do a restoration like this on our home again) job. Find it at [sashco.com/restoration](http://sashco.com/restoration).

The second most important factor affecting the longevity of stain is the quantity of stain applied to the wood. Light mist coats will fail quickly, even with the best stains out there. Applying as much Colorfast™ as the wood will accept, while back-brushing and forcing it into the wood, results in dramatically improved performance and longevity of both Colorfast™ and the Sashco stain applied over top. This includes filling any cracks or checks in the wood with stain! The first coat is the only time Colorfast™ can penetrate into the wood. See proper staining in action! Watch the video at <http://bit.ly/1BOuB7L>

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**Tip:** Work horizontally. Plan to apply Sashco's Colorfast™ to one wall at a time, starting at the bottom and working completely across 3–4 logs high. Colorfast™ goes on milky white, so it's easy to see where it has been applied. When the first 3–4 logs are coated, move up the wall to the next 3–4 logs. Continue in a similar pattern to the top of the wall, working around doors and windows as shown in the diagram. Clean any drips that may get on lower logs to avoid overlap marks. Colorfast™ dries very quickly, so staining over top can often happen the same day.

## Maintenance

While Colorfast™ requires no maintenance, the stain you apply over top does! Visit [sashco.com/log-home/maintain-my-log-home](http://sashco.com/log-home/maintain-my-log-home) for easy DIY log home inspection and maintenance tools that will help you keep your stain (and your sanity!) in tip-top shape.

## Cleanup

Colorfast™ becomes stickier as it dries! While still wet, clean tools and equipment with either mineral spirits or a citrus-based cleaner. If it has dried, mineral spirits will be required.

## Storage

Tightly reseal opened containers and store at room temperature. DO NOT FREEZE.

## Warranty

For a detailed description of the warranty and exclusions, please visit [sashco.com/legal-notice](http://sashco.com/legal-notice).

## First Aid Treatment

If swallowed, call a Poison Control Center or doctor immediately. Do not induce vomiting. If in eyes, rinse with water for 15 minutes. If on skin, rinse well with water. If breathed in, move person into fresh air.

**CAUTION:** MAY SPONTANEOUSLY COMBUST. Materials such as rags used with this product may begin to burn by themselves. After use, put rags in water or lay flat to dry, then discard. Putting rags in water or laying flat to dry will prevent these from starting on fire. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. Contains: Alkyd oils.

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## Technical Data

*(Not to be considered specifications)*

### Color

Goes on milky white. Dries clear.

### Coverage Rate

150-300 sq. ft. per gallon, depending on wood porosity and texture

### Recommended Wet Film Thickness

3 mils

### Packaging

1 gallon pails, 5 gallon pails, and 4 oz. sample cans

### Application Range

40°F (4°C) and rising to 90°F (32°C) and falling. Do not apply when rain or snow is imminent.

### VOCs

Less than 50 g/L

### Compatibility

Sashco's Colorfast™ is recommended for use under all other Sashco products. It also works well with most other caulking and chinking products. Please contact Sashco for details on specific compatibility questions.

### Dry Time

Dries in 2 hours or less, depending on weather.

### Freeze-Thaw

DO NOT FREEZE. Store above 40°F. If frozen, product is not usable.

### Viscosity

Thin like milk, Brookfield, LVF, 300-400 cp, #3 spindle, 6rpm

### pH

8.0-9.0

### Density

8.5-8.75 lbs/gal

### Solids

20-21%

### Odor

Mild

*The data reported here is believed to be reliable. No warranty is made concerning its accuracy or the results obtained from its use.*