

# DEX-COAT

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### 1. How many approximate feet do Monopole primers cover? How long should each of the primers be allowed to dry before top coating?

- **ULTRA-PRIME:** 200-300 sq/ft per gallon.
  - Allow approximately 2-3 hours of dry time before top coating.
- **MONOCHEM 21:** 200-300 sq/ft per gallon. 96oz kits cover 150-225 sq/ft.
  - Allow approximately 4-6 hours of dry time (when slightly tacky but not wet) before top coating. Do not exceed 12 hours to recoat.
- **MONOCHEM 1:** 200-225 sq/ft per gallon.
  - Allow approximately 2-4 hours of dry time before top coating.

### 2. When do I need to use a primer? Which primer should I choose?

- Sound *water based acrylic* or *latex* painted surfaces:
  - **ULTRA-PRIME:** Ensure that the coating is soundly adhering and clean. If the existing coating has sheen, abrasion the surface to remove the gloss.
- Sound *water base* coatings (other than latex and acrylics) ex. *Polyurethanes* or *Epoxies*:
  - **MONOCHEM 1:** Ensure the existing coating is soundly adhering and clean. If the existing coating has sheen, abrade the surface to remove the gloss.
- Sound *oil/solvent/water/alkyd base* etc. surfaces:
  - **MONOCHEM 21:** Ensure the existing coating is soundly adhering and clean.
- *Nonporous* (smooth) or *sealed* surfaces such as concrete, plastic, marble, granite, magnesite, glass, wood etc...:
  - **MONOCHEM 21:** Will adhere to porous, non porous, sealed, glazed, oil/water/solvent/enamels, alkyd base coatings. If the composition of a soundly adhering coating is unknown, test and prime with **MONOCHEM 21**.
- *Steel* and *Metal*:
  - A rust inhibitive primer is required.
- *Aluminum* and *Galvanized* surfaces:
  - Contact our technical service department for application specific information.
- *Pine*, *Redwood*, and *Cedar* that contain tannin acids must be primed with the stain blocking primer **AQUAPRIME**.
- Unpainted, textured, *cementitious* surfaces (~120 grit feel) or textured *wood* (that does not have tannin acids):
  - No priming is required before applying **DEX-COAT**. Priming however will maximize the adhesion.

3. **How many square feet does DEX-COAT cover?**
  - DEX-COAT TEXTURED: 125-150 square feet per gallon per coat
  - DEX-COAT SMOOTH: 200-225 square feet per gallon per coat
4. **How many coats are needed?**
  - 2 coats are required. Very porous surfaces may require a 3<sup>rd</sup> coat.
5. **How do you apply the system?**
  - **Please thoroughly review our Technical Data Sheets for complete instructions.**
6. **How do I know if my deck can be re-coated with DEX-COAT?**
  - If the existing deck coating or membrane remains fully adhered to the substrate, it can be re-coated. Refer to “2” above for the recommended primer.
7. **What preparations should I make for an existing deck?**
  - To prepare any deck for a new topcoat, it must be cleaned by pressure washing or thoroughly scrubbed with TSP, or detergent and water. Rinse the surface well and allow it to dry for 24 hours.
  - If the cementitious surface is clean and has an approximate 120 grit feel to it, the **DEX-COAT** does not require a primer. Priming however will maximize the adhesion.
  - If the existing coating is glossy, de-gloss it first by sanding or using a de-glosser. This can be skipped if priming with **MONOCHEM 21**.
  - If the existing deck coating has “alligator” cracks, or cracking at the plywood seams, we recommend taking off the old tape with a sander using 80-grit sandpaper. After re-taping the seams, and caulking apply one coat of **MONOCHEM 21**, **MONOCHEM 1**, **ULTRA-PRIME**, or **AQUAPRIME** primer, followed by a full application of **DEX-COAT**.
8. **Can I apply DEX-COAT over clear sealed plywood (plywood that is sealed with products such as Thompson Water-Seal, Wood-Life, Olympic and others)?**
  - Yes if priming with **MONOCHEM 21** or completely removing the seal.
    - Wood sealers often contain paraffin, which prevents paint or coatings from adhering to the wood which is why priming or puncturing the seal is required.
  - If priming isn't an option use a stripper to remove the sealer.
    - Test the surface after stripping the sealer by spraying it with water and observing if the water still beads. If the water does not bead (and soaks in darkening the surface), the sealer has been stripped. After successful moisture testing, allow the surface to dry for a minimum 24-48 hours before applying a testing the **DEX-COATS** adhesion.
9. **I have a deck made with 2x4 dimensional lumber, and it is very slippery when wet. Can I use DEX-COAT to provide a skid-resistant coating?**
  - Yes. When used on dimensional lumber, **DEX-COAT** provides an attractive, skid-resistant surface. However, dimensional lumber decks have gaps between

the 2x4s, which does not allow for the creation of a waterproof membrane. Contact our technical department for information regarding filling the gaps and treating other potential water absorbent areas which will cause coatings to delaminate.

- Always strip off any wood treatments or oil-based sealers before applying **DEX-COAT**.
- After testing the surface for water penetration, allow the surface to dry for a minimum 24-48 hours.

#### **10. Should I caulk gaps in plywood? Should I caulk over nails or screws?**

- All gaps between planks must be filled with a paintable elastomeric caulk before applying **DEX-COAT**.
  - Make sure moisture cannot be wind driven, sprinkler driven, or curled to the underside areas and vertical lip areas of the deck. If these areas are exposed to moisture and unsealed (water soaks in and darkens the surfaces) they must be coated or sealed with **AQUASEAL II**.
- First butte the plywood sheets against one another. Fill in all gaps, seams, cracks, nail indentations, etc. with high quality, paintable, elastomeric caulking before taping or coating. If water can curl or soak into an untreated area it will start the delamination process.

#### **11. Will the tape show through the coating? How can I hide visible lines from the tape used on seams?**

- To achieve a seamless finish, lightly sand the edges of the tape with medium grit sandpaper before the first coat is applied.

#### **12. How long before furniture or heavy items can be placed on the deck after the deck has been coated?**

- Allow 48-72 hours of dry time, and do not scrape the deck surface by dragging furniture or heavy items. Temperatures and humidity may influence dry times.

#### **13. Can I put planters on my deck?**

- Yes. To avoid discoloring or damaging the **DEX-COAT** coated surface, planters must be up off the surface. Plant stands can be used to lift planters.
- Avoid puddles of water under planters or hanging baskets.
- Allow the **DEX-COAT** at least 2-3 days of dry time before placing heavy objects like planters on the surface.

#### **14. My deck is still “sticky” and has not cured. What should I do?**

- If the temperature drops more than 20°F overnight (or into the low 40's F) before the coating is dry, it may not cure (harden) completely.
- If the coating is still sticky or tacky after 48 hours, wet the deck surface with an alkaline soap such as Simple Green, and agitate with a broom. Rinse the deck thoroughly and allow it to dry. Within 48 hours, the deck surface should be cured.

**15. I coated my deck in the afternoon, and early the next morning, I noticed that the surface appeared blotchy and stained. What happened? What can I do about it?**

- Although this condition may not look attractive, it will not have any effect on the life of the coating.
- The blotchy stained appearance occurs if the drying period is interrupted by moisture, such as dew, fog, rain or humidity.
- Wash the surface with household detergent and rinse well. (The longer the stain remains on the surface, the more difficult it can be to remove). Allow the surface to dry and continue with your application.
  - If the stain is stubborn, sanding the area and re-applying is an option.

**16. What is hydrostatic pressure?**

- Hydrostatic pressure is the term used to describe water migration below a concrete slab to the surface of a slab. It can be caused by high ground water tables, the lack of a protective membrane below a slab, or a broken membrane.
- Hydrostatic pressure will cause paint and coatings to bubble as the water pushes the paint film away from the concrete surface.
- Concrete or wood floor surfaces exhibiting the symptoms of hydrostatic pressure should **NEVER** be painted until the problem is corrected. The use of **MONOSEAL** (up to 13 PSI) can help.
- To test for hydrostatic pressure:
  - A) Conduct a calcium chloride test.
  - B) Cut a 2' x 2' square out of a trash bag and tape it to the center of the concrete slab in question. After 16-24 hours remove the tape and check the underside of the bag. If water droplets are present, there is a hydrostatic issue that needs addressing before product application begins.

*\*\*\* The above information is meant as a guideline. Before beginning product application, make sure to thoroughly read the technical data pages. A test patch to ensure the desired performance and product compatibility is also required.\*\*\**