

Care & Maintenance

Mastic Home Exterior products are some of the most durable building product materials available today for residential applications. In most cases, normal rainfall is sufficient to keep it clean. But, should your products need cleaning, we recommend the following procedures. Particular attention should be given to areas under eaves, porches, awnings and other overhangs that have limited exposure to the natural washing effect of rainfall.

1. Moderate Atmospheric Dirt – We recommend an occasional washing with clear water using a garden hose and soft-bristled brush (a long-handled, car-washing brush is ideal for this purpose).

2. Heavy Industrial Atmospheric Dirt – Wash in the manner indicated above, but use the following solution:

- a. 1/3 cup detergent (Tide®, for example)
- b. 2/3 cup trisodium phosphate (Soilax®, for example)
- c. 1-gallon water

3. Mildew Accumulation – Mildew can collect on surfaces of all types of building products and is often evident on surfaces that have not been properly cared for and maintained. Normally, mildew will appear as black spots. Mildew is easy to remove by using the basic cleaning solution above with the addition of sodium hypochlorite as follows:

- a. 1/3 cup detergent (Tide®, for example)
- b. 2/3 cup trisodium phosphate (Soilax®, for example)
- c. 1-quart sodium hypochlorite 5% solution (Clorox®, for example)
- d. 3 quarts water

4. Caulking Compounds, Tar and Similar Substances – Use mineral spirits in reasonable amounts and apply directly to the foreign substance. Immediately after cleaning, rinse the area thoroughly with water.

CAUTION:

Do not exceed the recommended concentrations of cleaners. To do so can cause damage to the Products' surface. Avoid skin and eye contact with the solution, and in all cases follow manufacturer's instructions for use of cleaning compounds and solutions. Avoid uses of abrasive-type cleaners and strong solvents. Test any cleaner on an inconspicuous area before applying to major areas. To minimize streaking, always clean from the bottom to the top and follow with a rinsing of clear water. Excessive scrubbing is unnecessary and can be harmful to the Products, and may cause undesirable glossy areas over the finish.

Power washing your vinyl siding? Read this first.

If you decide to power wash your vinyl or aluminum siding, please be sure to read your power washer instructions carefully before you begin. When cleaning, hold the power washer straight at eye level. Don't aim the washer upward as the water may collect behind the siding. This collected water could leak, which can produce streaks, or could stay behind the siding, which can cause decay. Set the pressure using a minimum of 1,500 PSI and maximum of 2,400, using a 40-degree tip.