

**MINWAX® Technical Data Sheet**  
**MINWAX® GEL STAIN**

**DESCRIPTION:**

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MINWAX Gel Stain is a non-drip stain that adds natural looking color to almost any wood or non-wood surface. Minwax Gel Stain is available in eight wood-tone colors.

**RECOMMENDED USE:**

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Designed for use on all types of wood, including hard-to-stain woods such as pine or plywood. It also works on non-wood surfaces, such as fiberglass, metal, and molded fiberboard. Since Minwax Gel Stain doesn't drip or run it is ideal for vertical surfaces.

**SURFACE PREPARATION:**

**WARNING!** Removal of old paint by sanding, scraping or other means may generate dust or fumes that contain lead. Exposure to lead dust or fumes may cause brain damage or other adverse health effects, especially in children or pregnant women. Controlling exposure to lead or other hazardous substances requires the use of proper protective equipment such as a properly fitted respirator (NIOSH approved) and proper containment and cleanup. For more information call the National Lead Information Center at 1-800-424-LEAD (in US) or contact your local health authority.

**FOR USE ON WOOD SURFACES**

1. Make sure surface is clean and free of dirt, grease, and old coatings.
2. Mask off all areas you do not want stained (such as glass) and remove all hardware.
3. Sand the Surface (if not prepared) in the direction of the grain until smooth.
4. Remove dust with a cloth dampened with 100% mineral spirits.

**PRODUCT PREPARATION & COLOR TESTING ON WOOD**

1. Before use and occasionally throughout the project, stir stain until the texture is creamy.
2. Before starting, try stain on a hidden area to ensure proper color selection.
3. To help ensure even stain color penetration and beautiful results, pre-treat soft or porous woods such as, but not limited to, pine, maple, alder, and birch with Minwax Pre-Stain Wood Conditioner.

**STAIN APPLICATION ON WOOD**

1. Apply a liberal amount of Gel Stain evenly with a brush or rag.
2. Wait 3 minutes and, using a clean rag, wipe with the wood grain to remove the excess stain.
3. Allow to dry 8 to 10 hours.
4. To darken the color, apply additional coats of Gel Stain following the previous 3 steps.

**FOR USE ON FIBERGLASS DOORS**

1. Make sure surface is clean and free of dirt, grease, and old coating.
2. Mask off all areas you do not want stained (such as glass) and remove all hardware.
3. Do not sand fiberglass, as sanding could damage the surface.

**PRODUCT PREPARATION AND COLOR TESTING ON FIBERGLASS**

1. Before use and occasionally throughout the project, stir stain until the texture is creamy.
2. Before starting, try stain on a hidden area to ensure proper color selection.

### **STAIN APPLICATION ON FIBERGLASS**

1. Using a high quality natural bristle brush, spread a thin, even coat over the entire surface, starting with the raised panel sections. Always make final brush strokes in the direction of the embossed grain.
2. Areas of heavier coats should be evened out before moving to a new section.
3. Allow stain to dry approximately 6 to 8 hours.
4. To darken the color, apply additional coats by following the directions above. Allow approximately 6 to 8 hours between each coat to dry.

### **FOR USE ON METAL DOORS**

Note: You will need: a graining tool, clean, dry, lint-free cloths, and clean, dry synthetic brushes.

1. Select an oil-based base coat tinted to match the light tone in the wood you are trying to create.
2. Apply a thin layer of the base coat paint to the entire door and allow it to dry thoroughly.
3. Mask all areas that you do not want stained and remove all hardware and doorknobs.
4. Clean the surface with a cloth dampened with 100% mineral spirits to remove all dust, grease, and dirt.

### **PRODUCT PREPARATION AND COLOR TESTING ON METAL DOORS**

1. Before use and occasionally throughout the project, stir stain until the texture is creamy.
2. Before starting, try stain on a hidden area to ensure proper color selection.

### **STAIN APPLICATION ON METAL DOORS**

(Follow directions below and work on a one small section at a time in the following order (mask off each section before you work on it):

1. Stain center panels one at a time
2. Stain vertical center strips one at a time
3. Stain horizontal areas between center panels one at a time
4. Stain long vertical panels
5. Stain edge of door last

1. To create the wood grain, select a stain color that corresponds to the darker tone in the wood you're trying to create.
2. Apply a thin, even layer of stain to a section using a soft, lint-free cloth or brush. Use long strokes in the direction of the grain you intend to create.
3. While the stain is wet, use a graining tool to create the wood grain pattern. Apply downward pressure while moving the graining tool across the section at a constant speed. Use long, steady strokes, rocking the graining tool down and up slowly as you move it (keep the graining tool clean by wiping it often with a rag or paper towel).
4. Wait one minute then soften the grain pattern by brushing very lightly with the tip of a clean, dry synthetic brush using long strokes (if you are not satisfied with this attempt, wipe the surface clean and start over again).
5. Do not remove the masking tape until the stain has dried to the touch.
6. Repeat these steps sections by section until the door is completed.
7. To give surface a real wood look, wait until the stain is completely dry (24 to 48 hours); apply another liberal coat of stain working section by section as noted above.
8. Working quickly while the stain is wet, use a clean, dry synthetic brush to remove the excess stain and create a uniform look (the amount of stain left on will determine depth of color). Make long quick brush strokes in the direction of the grain. Remove the stain from the brush as it begins to accumulate with paper towels or a rag.

### **PROTECTION ON ALL TYPE SURFACES**

After 24 hours, apply a Minwax protective clear finish according to label instructions. For interior surfaces use Minwax Fast Drying Polyurethane, Minwax Wipe On Poly, or Minwax Polycrylic Protective Finish. For exterior use we recommend Minwax Clear Shield or Minwax Helmsman Spar Urethane.

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### **DRY TIME:**

Allow 24 hours for stain to dry. Dry time may be extended due to high humidity, low temperatures or inadequate ventilation.

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### **MAINTENANCE:**

Every 12-24 months, apply another coat of protective clear finish to maintain.

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### **CLEANUP/STORAGE:**

Use 100% mineral spirits or paint thinner. Close container after each use. Keep away from heat, sparks and flame. **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

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### **SAFETY:**

**CAUTIONS:** Combustible. Contains petroleum distillates. May cause skin and eye irritation. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Do not ingest. Avoid inhalation and use only with adequate ventilation. If using indoors, open all windows and doors to make sure there is fresh air movement. If you experience lightheadedness, dizziness or headaches, increase fresh air movement or leave area. Reports have associated repeated and prolonged occupational overexposure to solvents with permanent brain and nervous system damage. Intentional misuse by deliberately concentrating and inhaling the contents may be harmful or fatal. Keep away from heat, sparks and flame. Close container after each use. **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.** Contact a physician for more health information. **FIRST AID:** Ingestion: If swallowed, wipe out mouth and give 1-2 glasses of water. Call physician or poison center. Eye Contact: In case of eye contact, **IMMEDIATELY** flush eyes with water then remove contact lenses. Continue to flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists. **Skin Contact:** For skin contact, wash thoroughly with mild soap and water. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists. **Inhalation:** If affected by inhalation, immediately move to fresh air. If symptoms persist, call physician.

### **PHYSICAL PROPERTIES:**

Resin type:	Thixotropic Soya Alkyd	Testing method:
Solvent:	Mineral spirits	ASTM D-4236
Odor:	Petroleum Solvent	
Luster (@60):	Low	
No. of coats:	Wood 1 or 2	Fiberglass 2
		Metal 1 or 2
Dry-time:	Wood Recoat 6 to 8 hrs.	Fiberglass Recoat 24 hrs.
		Metal Recoat 24-48 hrs.

Flash point:	109 degrees F (43 degrees C)			SETAFLASH*
Applicator:	Wood	Fiberglass	Metal	
	Brush or rag	Rags and synthetic brushes	Rags and synthetic brushes	
VOC	4.6 lbs./gal (550 g/L)			
Coverage (sq. ft./qt.):	200			
% Solids:	40.02 – 41.94			ASTM D2369-86
Viscosity	4,000 – 10,000 Centipoise			

\* SETAFLASH is a registered trademark of Stanhope-Seta Limited.