

Protecting Your Deck

A Beautiful Deck In Two Steps

(NAPSA)—If time has taken a toll on your deck, leaving it dirty, mildew stained and wearing a coat of gray, don't worry. It's easy to restore your deck to its natural beauty. Clean and protect your deck to get the most out of it during the spring and summer months. Here's advice from the experts at Wolman Wood Care Products:

- Clean the deck thoroughly with a formulated deck cleaner, such as Wolman Deck & Fence Brightener—Wood Cleaner & Coating Prep. Embedded dirt, weathered gray wood left behind from last year's sun exposure, black or green stains from mildew, mold and algae, or brown-black tannin bleed common on new cedar can ruin the look of your deck. Even newly built wood decks can require surface prep to remove surface barriers such as mill glaze on cedar or "green bleed" on pressure-treated pine. These barriers can prevent the adhesion of protective coatings, including colored stains and clear sealers. Products like Deck & Fence Brightener remove surface barriers, gray discoloration and even the toughest stains, restoring wood to its natural beauty without bleaching, like chlorine bleach can.

- Apply a solid or semitransparent stain to enhance your deck's appeal, or a transparent finish or toner with a hint of color to let the natural wood grain and texture show through. Even if you



Less time maintaining your deck can leave you more time to enjoy it.

are undecided on whether or not to stain—or which color to choose—it's important to protect it with a water repellent. Water repellents stop spring and summer showers from penetrating the wood surface, and the resulting swelling, shrinking, warping and cracking caused by water absorption. Many products, including Wolman RainCoat Water Repellent, also contain a mildewcide to resist ugly mildew growth on the coating film. Look for products, such as RainCoat, that offer a performance guarantee on water-repellent longevity. They provide longer-lasting protection so you won't have to apply a new coat every year.

For more information about cleaning, restoring, beautifying and protecting your deck, or for more helpful deck tips, visit www.wolman.com.