

Instructions for Coating AZEK Cellular PVC with Solid Colors (Brushing and Spraying)



There are only 2 possible ways to make D100 coating fail on AZEK:

- Failure to follow the preparation instructions.
- Failure to follow the environmental guidelines.

Read & follow these simple instructions carefully and your AZEK / Aqua-DIY will be successful and provide you with decades of beautiful performance.

D100 paint does not stick to the pvc's surface, it bonds with it on a molecular level, providing ultimate performance.

It must be applied directly to the pvc. That is why surface preparation is crucial: you must remove the surface contaminants left over from the material's manufacturing process before applying the paint.

This molecular bond is the result of a chemical reaction which takes place when D100 is applied to the pvc. This reaction will not occur if the following requirements are not met:

Temperature, at the time of application and for 24 hours after, must be above 50°F. The painted surfaces must also not be exposed to precipitation for the first 24 hours after application.

Note: These instructions are meant to be simple and concise. You can find more detailed information by visiting the FAQ section and/or Troubleshooting Guide at:

www.aqua-diy.com/azek

1. Product and Surface Preparation

Remove security clips on the can with a screwdriver.



D100 should be stirred prior to use. Avoid shaking the container to mix, as this may introduce air bubbles in the coating and result in a poor finish during application.



Prior to beginning your project we recommend applying the D100 coating on a small test sample to ensure it is the color ordered. The coating will darken as it dries and with multiple passes (coats).

If the surface is excessively dirty it is recommended to wash it thoroughly with a mild soap and water mixture, alternatively it could be pressure washed. Allow sufficient time for the surface to fully dry.

If this project is a **RECOAT**, then the surface should be **lightly sanded** prior to continuing. After sanding, rinse completely or pressure wash, and dry.

2. Masking

Use painter's masking tape to mask all areas which are not to be coated.

This is especially critical if the cellular PVC product will be sprayed already installed.

When possible, pre-finishing product prior to installation will produce better results, although touch-ups after installation will normally be required.



3. Surface Cleaning - Critical

Panels must be cleaned thoroughly prior to coating; this is the most critical step to achieve many years of performance.

D100 creates a molecular bond with PVC, not with the surface contaminants left over from its manufacturing process. It is crucial to remove those contaminants from the surface to be painted, to achieve this type of bond and avoid any potential for failure.

****Attention AZEK PaintPro Users****

AZEK's PaintPro products do not require cleaning before paint application. Simply remove dust and debris from the surface with a damp cloth or pressurized air, and your surface will be ready to be coated.

Degreasing with VinylKleen

Use abrasive pads and clean lint free towels for this phase.

Apply the VK cleaner to the abrasive pad and start scrubbing until a light foam develops.

Applying a bit more pressure specifically along the edges of any profiles at this stage will ensure the coating “wraps” well around the edges.



Dry the surface fully with a lint free cloth.

Failure to completely wipe or rinse off the VK Degreaser is equivalent to displacing the contaminants, rather than removing them from the material.



Quality Control – Cleaning

If the above steps are followed, the surface will be ready. If there is any doubt, it is possible to verify with 100% certainty that the surface is free of contamination; this can be performed by a simple water test:

Water Test Procedure: A squeeze bottle is ideal for this process.

PASS – Place a few drops of water on the cleaned surface. The surface is clean if the water does NOT bead and the surface remains wet (like in the illustration beside). In other words, the water should form one single “pool” that stays together in contrast to separating into multiple drops. Unfortunately, this only works on horizontal surfaces.



FAIL – If the surface fails the wet-ability test (i.e. the water beads into multiple droplets) the surface must be cleaned again.



4. Application:

The recommended manual application method of D100 onto a cellular PVC surface is with a brush.

Whether brushing or spraying, if for any reason you feel the coating needs to be thinned out, this can be achieved with distilled (or bottled) water. Do not add more than 5% by volume.



For maximum efficiency, performance, and color quality, it is strongly recommended to perform a minimum of 2 even coats when brushing.

In technical terms, the goal of applying the coating is to end up with a dry film thickness of no less than 1.5 mils. (Total wet film thickness should be about 4 mils).

For dark colors, this thickness will be required to achieve good color intensity. With lighter colors, it is still recommended to apply at least 4 mils, even though solid color coverage might be achieved before, to ensure that color fading is minimal over time.

For most weather conditions it should be possible to work with minimal wait time between coats to complete. Unless the environmental conditions are cold and/or very humid, you will not need to wait more than 15 minutes before starting the next coat. If you have multiple units to paint, you could simply start applying the first coat to the adjacent unit prior to cycling back for the next coat.

If for any reason you need to stop, rinse the brush with water.

CAUTION: Do not leave more than a few hours between coats (after the coat is dry), this could cause delamination between coats in the future.

If you choose to spray, the masking will need to account for the potential overspray. Using an HVLP process is ideal; use a tip size around 1.8 mm – 2 mm.

If you choose this route, always spray a piece of cardboard or scrap material first to be sure that everything is working properly. The coating should be well “atomised”, and the fan well adjusted.

Drying times will vary according to the weather conditions. Temperatures below 50°F need to be avoided as it will compromise the bond. Drying time is affected by temperature, humidity, and air circulation. Adjust any one of these, and the drying time will be affected. Under typical circumstances the surface should be touch dry in less than twenty minutes @ 50% humidity.

Congratulations!

You are done!

Storage and disposal:

Aqua-DIY D100 can be stored at room temperature for up to one or two years. Ensure the containers are closed tightly. D100 is an environmentally safe water-based coating. No chemicals are required for cleaning or thinning, simply use water. Follow local laws and regulations for proper disposal.

Maintenance:

Your project is now complete and its beautiful appearance can be maintained simply by washing the surface as needed with a mild soap and water mixture. We recommend a yearly cleaning. Use leftover D100 for touching up or repair of scratches.

Safety:

Further information and MSDS for Aqua-DIY D100 and Aqua-DIY cleaners can be found on our website by visiting www.aqua-diy.com/azek.



www.aqua-diy.com

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