## How to use this Application Guide

Begin by reviewing the information in section #1 - General Preparation - for the proper steps to follow prior to applying all the Sikkens systems. Make sure to review the application Do's and Do not's section for application tips. Use this index to find the information related to the type of project you are involved in. When it comes time for maintenance, refer to page 13 of the Application Guide.

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General Preparation Details

New wood should have ample time to dry out thoroughly before construction begins. If the wood to be used is new pressure-treated or wolmanized, assume it is too wet to coat. This also applies to wood grades stamped “s-green.” If in doubt, ask your lumberyard or contractor if the wood is “green” or “dry.” Unassembled boards should be dried for 4-6 weeks in good drying weather (warm and sunny). Spacers should be put throughout the woodpile so air can circulate between and over the boards. Cover the wood in wet weather.

Note: Before any preparation procedure (sanding, TSP bleach cleaning, oxalic acid, etc) to treated wood (wolmanized, Timbor, etc.) contact the manufacturer of the treated wood for proper personal protective equipment recommendations and advice on health and environmental risks.

New or Weathered Wood

If the wood used in the project is new, it can have mill glaze / planers crush. If the wood used is weathered wood, it will have pollution, contaminates, or deteriorates on the surface. If the project is a log structure it may have some or the entire layer underneath the bark, called cambium, left on the wood.

The best method to prepare any wood surface is to sand it with 80-120 grit sandpaper for vertical surfaces, 60-80 grit sandpaper for horizontal areas (deck floors and tops of handrails).

Cleaning Recommendation

An alternate to sanding for preparation is as follows:

1. Spray the surface with clean water, wetting the wood.
2. Clean the surface with a solution of four (4) ounces of Tri-Sodium Phosphate (TSP) or phosphate-free substitute plus one (1) quart of liquid bleach in three (3) quarts of water. Apply this solution generously to the wood with a garden pump sprayer.
3. Let the solution sit on the wood for 15-20 minutes. During this period, scrub the surface with a hard bristle brush to help remove mill glaze and/or weathering. Do not let the solution dry on the wood. Keep it wet. (It’s best to work with smaller manageable sections. Too large of an area can lead to the solution drying too quickly).
4. Power wash the cleaning solution from the wood with clean water. To prevent damaging the wood, do not exceed 500 psi. The nozzle must be a maximum of one (1) foot from the surface for full effectiveness. Use of a home garden hose (approximately 60psi) is not suitable – proper power washing equipment must be used for maximum effectiveness.
5. Let the surface dry for three (3) good dry days before applying the coating.

When using the Cetol DEK Base & Cetol DEK system, all horizontal surfaces must be mechanically sanded using 60-80 grit sandpaper after cleaning.

If the wood is affected with blue fungi, rust or staining, after following the normal surface preparation, treat the surface with a solution of four (4) oz. of oxalic acid crystals in one (1) gallon of warm water. This solution should be allowed to sit on the affected areas for 15-20 minutes before the final rinse with clean water. Let it dry for three (3) good dry days before coating. Fill all joints, cracks and nail holes with a good quality polyurethane or acrylic filler prior to applying the coating.

Previously Coated Wood

If using one of the solid color systems, Rubbol Solid Stain or Rubbol DEK, old coatings do not necessarily have to be removed. As long as the existing coating is in good condition, follow the weathered, uncoated wood preparation instructions (TSP bleach, water solution). If the adhesion of the existing coating is in question, it must be removed prior to applying Rubbol DEK or Rubbol Solid Stain.

When using the translucent products, Cetol 1 & Cetol 23 Plus, Cetol DEK Base & Cetol DEK, Cetol SRD, Cetol TGL Gloss/Satin & Cetol 1, old coatings must be completely removed before application.

Coating Removal

For complete removal of an old coating, follow one the methods listed below.

1. Sand the surface with 60-80 grit sandpaper to sand down to the bare wood. Always sand in the direction of the wood.
2. Remove all sanding dust and dirt by vacuuming or sweeping.

2. Let the surface dry for three (3) good dry days before beginning to coat the wood. The wood must be completely dried out before coating (i.e. moisture content below 18%).

General Application Do’s and Do Not’s

DO:

✓ Apply when surface & air temp is 50° to 95° F (10° to 35°C)  
✓ Saturate all end grains  
✓ Apply liberal coats  
✓ Maintain a wet coat  
✓ Apply in direction of grain

DO NOT APPLY:

✓ In direct sunlight (except Cetol DEK Base)  
✓ When surface is hot to touch (over 95° F / 35°C)  
✓ When dew or frost is present  
✓ In wet weather  
✓ If moisture content of the wood is over 18% (except Cetol SRD 1 Coat System below 21%)

Color check

It is always recommended to do a full coating system color test on a sample of wood that will be used in the project. This will ensure that the desired color is achieved.

Batch check

To ensure color consistency throughout a project, it is always recommended that an identical product batch number be chosen for the job. If different batch numbers exist, mix all batches together for color consistency.

Tools

Apply Cetol 1 & Cetol 23 Plus, Cetol TGL Gloss/Satin Cetol DEK Base & Cetol DEK, as well as Cetol SRD with a long-haired natural bristle brush. Apply Rubbol Solid Stain, Opaque Satin and Rubbol DEK with a long-haired nylon-polyester
brush. The first coat in the system must always be brush applied. The second or third coat can be spray applied. Spraying is only recommended with Cetol 23 Plus, Cetol TGL Gloss/Satin, Rubbol Solid Stain and Opaque Satin. Please contact the Decorative Technical Department of Akzo Nobel regarding spray application.

**Spray/Roller/Dipping application of Cetol SRD**

If spray or roller applied, the product must be back brushed immediately to ensure penetration and to avoid an uneven finish. For best results, shakes and shingles should be individually dipped. To do so, immerse them in Cetol SRD, let the excess drip off, or brush out, then lay out to dry for a minimum of 16 hours. Once dry, shakes/shingles can be installed.

**Back Priming**

For all products, application of one coat to all sides of the boards is the best recommendation to prevent excessive moisture intake in the wood, which may result in coating failure. When using the Cetol DEK Base & Cetol DEK system, it is required that all six sides of the board be coated with at least one coat, otherwise coating failure can be experienced.

**Screened Porches/Hardwoods**

When finishing screened porches, the area beneath the porch should provide good ventilation. If tongue and groove boards are used, the wood should be coated on all six (6) sides whenever possible. In all cases, extended drying times may occur. Do not use Cetol DEK Base on screened porches or exotic hardwood decks, instead use three (3) coats of Cetol DEK with a minimum of 24 hours drying time between coats.

**Deck Furniture**

To ensure complete product curing, we recommend that you wait at least seven (7) days before you move any furniture back onto your deck.

**Timing**

The full Sikkens siding system should be applied within four (4) weeks, once the surface has been prepared. The deck system should be applied within one (1) week, once the surface has been prepared.

**Hazing on Decks**

To prevent hazing (whitish haze on the surface) from occurring, allow at least five (5) hours of drying time before dew, frost or rain is expected. If hazing should occur, let the product dry for seven (7) days. Lightly sand the surface with 180-220 grit sandpaper, then reapply a thin coat of the product under favorable weather conditions.

**Bad/Wet Weather**

Do not apply finishes, especially deck products for at least 72 hours (48 hours for Cetol SRD) following any precipitation (rain, dew, or frost etc.).

**Storage**

Keep from freezing. Always keep Rubbol Solid Stain, Rubbol DEK and Opaque Satin in a frost-free area.

**Extractive Bleeding**

When applying Rubbol DEK, Rubbol Solid Stain and Opaque Satin to certain types of knotty woods, a non-bleeding primer may be necessary to prevent extractive bleeding from the wood. Before coating application, prepare a two-coat test sample on your wood to ensure extractive bleeding will not occur.

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**Exterior Applications**

**Siding Systems & Applications**

**CETOL 1 & CETOL 23 PLUS - TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISH**

**STANDARD SYSTEM - GOOD VENTILATION / LOW MOISTURE**

Good ventilation and low moisture results when siding is applied over strapping which is staggered to allow moisture to ventilate up and out from behind the siding. In this case, the standard system – one (1) coat Cetol 1 and two (2) coats Cetol 23 Plus - is the best choice.

**CETOL 1 & CETOL 23 PLUS - TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISH**

**POOR VENTILATION / MEDIUM MOISTURE**

Poor ventilation and medium moisture exists when the siding is applied directly to tar paper, sheathing, Styrofoam, Tyvec, etc. This results in no air circulation behind the siding to allow for moisture to escape. The medium moisture system – two (2) coats of Cetol 1 and one (1) coat of Cetol 23 Plus - is recommended.

**Maintenance**

Recoat siding every two (2) to three (3) years on the south & west-facing or heavily exposed areas. North & east-facing, or sides receiving less exposure, should be maintained every three (3) to four (4) years. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**HINT:** Sikkens Siding Systems can be used on the following siding constructions: Shiplap, Channel Siding, Bevel, Tongue & Groove, and Board & Baton. Water collection in the V groove of Chevron and Herring Bone patterns may result in coating failure, therefore, make sure the end grains are well coated and properly caulked. Aluminum foil-faced foam or rigid foam insulation may also result in poor coating adhesion due to excessive moisture and heat build up. Only Cetol SRD is recommended in this situation.

**CETOL SRD APPLICATION - TRANSLUCENT FLAT FINISH**

**Maintenance**

A maintenance coat using Cetol SRD should be applied when visually necessary to help maintain its protective characteristics. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**HINT:** If the surface does not have an even appearance (around knot areas, etc.), a second thin coat may be applied to even out the color.
**Fences & Garden Furniture**

**CETOL I - TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISH**

High levels of humidity and moisture exist in fences & garden furniture due to the many end grains and horizontal surfaces involved. All end grains and areas close to the ground must be heavily coated to avoid moisture uptake into the wood.

**Maintenance**

A maintenance coat of Cetol I should be applied when visually required (one (1) - two (2) years). Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**CETOL SRD APPLICATION - TRANSLUCENT FLAT FINISH**

**Maintenance**

A maintenance coat using Cetol SRD should be applied when visually necessary to help maintain its protective characteristics. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**RUBBOL SOLID STAIN - SOLID COLOR FLAT FINISH**

**New / Bare Wood Application**

- PREP PROCEDURE
- RUBBOL SOLID STAIN
- 24 HOURS
- RUBBOL SOLID STAIN

**Previously Coated Surface**

- PREP PROCEDURE
- RUBBOL SOLID STAIN

**Maintenance**

System maintenance consists of applying one coat of Rubbol Solid Stain as visually necessary. On the average, this will be five (5) years depending on the level of exposure to the elements. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**Opaque Satin - Solid Color Satin Finish**

**Maintenance**

System maintenance consists of applying one coat of Opaque Satin as visually necessary. On the average, this will be 5-7 years, depending on the level of exposure to the elements. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**SHAKE & SHINGLE APPLICATION**

High levels of humidity and moisture exist in roof shakes and shingles due to the many end grains and horizontal surfaces involved. All end grains must be heavily coated to avoid moisture uptake into the wood.

Cetol SRD may be sprayed on in the case of roof shingles and shakes. Apply enough material to get an even appearance of the coating. Brush out any runs immediately to avoid lapmarks and drips. For best results, shakes and shingles should be individually dipped. To do so, immerse them in Cetol SRD, let the excess drip off or brush out, then lay out to dry for a minimum of 16 hours. Once dry, shakes/shingles can be installed.

Rubbol Solid Stain and Opaque Satin can be applied on shakes installed on siding only; it cannot be used on roof shakes. (Follow application procedures above.)
**Opaque Satin Fence Application - Solid Color Satin Finish**

**New / Bare Wood Application**

- **Prep Procedure**
- **Opaque Satin**
- 24 Hours
- **Opaque Satin**

**Previously Coated**

- **Prep Procedure**
- **Opaque Satin**

**Maintenance**

System maintenance consists of applying one coat of Opaque Satin as visually necessary. On the average, this will be 5-7 years, depending on the level of exposure to the elements. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**Doors & Windows**

Entrance and garage doors as well as windows have a unique problem in that they have many joints and seams; therefore, a lot of open-end grains. If not properly treated, this could cause coating failure due to excess moisture intake. Additionally, the temperature difference that exists between the interior and exterior can cause moisture transport, which may lead to problems. To reduce or eliminate the possibility of coating failure in these situations, some simple procedures should be adhered to. Doors should be coated on all sides including the top and bottom. Windows should be coated well on the interior surface as well as the exterior. If possible, coat the outside frame structure of the window. Garage doors should be coated on the bottom and top of the door, replacing hardware only after the coating is dry. Where there are holes or areas where the joinery meets, saturate heavily with the coating and, where necessary, fill with a good quality polyurethane or acrylic-based caulking.

*Note:* Do not use Cetol TGL Gloss or Satin by itself on any heavily exposed areas (south and west). A base coat of Cetol 1 is always necessary for proper UV protection.

**Cetol TGL Clear - Satin / Gloss Finishes**

- **Prep Procedure (Sand Only)**
- **Cetol TGL Satin/Gloss**
- 24 Hours
- **Cetol TGL Satin/Gloss**
- 24 Hours
- **Cetol TGL Satin/Gloss**

**Translucent - Satin / Gloss Finishes**

- **Prep Procedure (Sand Only)**
- **Cetol 1**
- 24 Hours
- **Cetol 1 or TGL Satin/Gloss**
- 24 Hours
- **Cetol TGL Satin/Gloss**

**Maintenance**

A maintenance coat of Cetol TGL Satin/Gloss every two (2) to three (3) years on the south & west-facing sides or heavily exposed areas. Reapply every three (3) to four (4) years on the north & east sides. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**Rubbol Solid Stain Solid Color System - Flat Finish**

**New / bare wood**

- **Prep Procedure (Sand Only)**
- **Rubbol Solid Stain**
- 24 Hours
- **Rubbol Solid Stain**

**Previously coated wood**

- **Prep Procedure (Sand Only)**
- **Rubbol Solid Stain**

**Maintenance**

System maintenance consists of applying one coat of Rubbol Solid Stain as visually necessary. On the average, this will be 5 years depending on the level of exposure to the elements. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**Opaque Satin Solid Color System - Satin Finish**

- **Prep Procedure (Sand Only)**
- **Opaque Satin**
- 24 Hours
- **Opaque Satin**

**Maintenance**

System maintenance consists of applying one coat of Opaque Satin as visually necessary. On the average, this will be 5-7 years, depending on the level of exposure to the elements. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.
**Deck Systems & Applications**

**IMPORTANT:**
The Cetol DEK Base/Cetol DEK and Rubbol DEK Systems will perform if applied and maintained as recommended. Rapid deterioration of the deck surface can occur when there is standing water, spray from a sprinkling system, unventilated and/or skirted decks or limited gapping between the boards. Under these conditions, Cetol DEK Base/Cetol DEK and Rubbol DEK are not recommended. Additionally, in the case of Cetol DEK Base, deterioration will occur if the deck sits less than two (2) feet from the ground. When these “less than ideal” conditions exist, Cetol SRD should be your choice.

**Decks and Covered Porch Systems**

**CETOL DEK BASE & CETOL DEK - TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISHES**

**Decks**

**Stage 1**

- **PREP PROCEDURE**
- CETOL DEK BASE (6 SIDES)
- 24 HOURS (MINIMUM)
- CETOL DEK BASE
- 6 TO 12 MONTHS

**Stage 2**

- **MAINTENANCE PROCEDURE**
- CETOL DEK

**HINT:** Timing for the application of Stage 2 should be determined by the deck’s gloss appearance after the initial six (6) month period. (Cetol DEK Base losing its sheen).

**Maintenance**

After the initial coat of Cetol DEK, apply one coat of Cetol DEK every 18-24 months for long-term maintenance. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**CETOL SRD – TRANSLUCENT FLAT FINISH**

**All deck & dock structures**

- **PREP PROCEDURE**
- CETOL SRD

**Maintenance**

A Maintenance coat of Cetol SRD should be applied as visually necessary. This will help Cetol SRD maintain its protective characteristics. Only a light coat is required on areas showing minimal wear. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**RUBBOL DEK – SOLID COLOR SATIN FINISH**

**Decks - uncoated**

- **PREP PROCEDURE**
- RUBBOL DEK
- 24 HOURS
- RUBBOL DEK

**Decks - previously coated**

- **MAINTENANCE PROCEDURE**
- RUBBOL DEK

**Maintenance**

In general, for long-term maintenance and to ensure optimal durability, apply a single coat of Rubbol DEK to the prepared surface every two (2) years. Depending on the surface conditions of the deck and levels of daily wear and tear, this maintenance coat may be required sooner. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**COVERED PORCH SYSTEM**

When a satin film-building finish is desired on covered/screened porches or other deck applications which receive limited UV exposure, use Cetol DEK only, do not use Cetol DEK Base. The area beneath the porch should provide good ventilation.

If tongue and groove boards are used, the wood should be coated on all six (6) sides whenever possible to avoid moisture intake and loss of coating adhesion. In all cases, extended drying times may occur.
Exotic Hardwood Applications

Tropical rain forests produce exotic types of wood classified as hardwoods: mahogany, ipe, teak and others. The characteristics of these woods are:

• A dense cell structure which may reduce the ability of the coating to penetrate the wood surface.

• Natural oils that exist in some species can migrate to the surface and may affect the adhesion of the wood coating.

Sikkens has taken the unique nature of hardwoods into careful consideration and has provided two solutions for your hardwood deck, railing and deck furniture.

**HINT:** To ensure the best coating performance on these oily woods, wipe the surface with acetone to remove excess oils immediately prior to applying one of the hardwood systems.

**HARDWOOD SYSTEM CETOL DEK – TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISH**

Maintenance

A maintenance coat of Cetol DEK should be applied every 12-18 months for long-term maintenance. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

**CETOL SRD HARDWOOD SYSTEM – TRANSLUCENT FLAT FINISH**

Maintenance

A maintenance coat of Cetol SRD should be applied as visually necessary. This will help Cetol SRD maintain its protective characteristics. Only a light coat is required on areas showing minimal wear. Because of the nature of hardwoods, more frequent maintenance will be required compared to more “commonly used” species. Before applying the maintenance coat, follow the maintenance preparation procedures.

Composite Wood Systems & Applications

**CETOL DEK BASE & CETOL DEK - TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISHES**

Use standard Cetol DEK Base & DEK System.

**CETOL SRD – TRANSLUCENT FLAT FINISH**

Use standard Cetol SRD System.

**RUBBOL DEK – SOLID COLOR SATIN FINISH**

Use standard Rubbol DEK System.

Log Home Systems & Applications

**PRETREATMENT & DRYING PROCEDURE**

There are three (3) general types of logs, categorized by moisture content and the methods used to shape and prepare the logs:

1. Green or wet logs, wolmanized, timbor-treated and pressure-treated logs. These logs have a moisture content greater than 18%. If a film-forming system is selected, the moisture content has to be reduced to 18% or below by following a drying period sufficient to reduce the moisture content to 18%.

2. Kiln-dried or air-dried logs. Generally, the moisture content of these logs is below 18%; however, some logs may have a moisture content higher than 18%. Therefore, it is recommended to allow a six (6) month drying period before applying any Sikkens film-forming system, such as Cetol 1 & Cetol 23 Plus.

3. Laminated / completely dried logs. An example of these are logs formed by gluing wood planks together to form a log shape. These logs have a moisture content less than 14%; therefore, they can be coated immediately with any Sikkens system. Previously built log homes, older than two (2) to three (3) years, can also be coated immediately.

If the moisture content of the logs is 18% or higher, the logs are considered “wet” and should not be immediately coated with a film-building coating. Logs must be protected against wood rot, fungi, mold, etc. Some manufacturers pretreat their logs by dipping them in a wood preservative such as zinc naphthanate, borate, or by pressure treating them (wolmanizing). This treatment is normally sufficient to prevent decay from brown and white rot or insects but does not always protect against blue fungi or surface mildew growth. Akzo Nobel’s Sikkens Wood Preservative (where it is available) prevents fungi, decay, rot, and surface mildew and bacteria growth. This product can be used to prevent microorganism growth. It is also a good product to use for temporary protection when the logs are “wet,” or when finishing cannot be completed (such as over the winter months). If Sikkens Wood Preservative is not available, use a coat of clear, non-film forming wood preservative as “temporary” protection for exterior logs.

**CAULKING CHECKING & JOINTS**

Fill all joints, cracks, and nail holes with a good quality polyurethane or acrylic filler prior to coating application. Areas where caulking is smeared over the log surface can be sanded after drying with 80-grit sandpaper to remove the caulking residue. It is important to remove caulking smears because the pigment in the Cetol finish will not penetrate and will, therefore, show up lighter in color.

**CETOL 1 & CETOL 23 PLUS - TRANSLUCENT SATIN FINISHES**

**GREEN, WET, TREATED LOG SYSTEMS**

**HINT:** To ensure the best coating performance on these oily woods, wipe the surface with acetone to remove excess oils immediately prior to applying one of the hardwood systems.
**General Maintenance Preparation Procedures**

Maintenance depends on the location of the project, the wood construction and many other variables. Therefore, use the following maintenance schedules as a guideline. Every year an inspection should be made for signs of wear and tear. Before applying the maintenance coat, always clean and prepare the surface as follows:

1. Spray the surface with clean water to wet the wood.
2. Clean the surface with a solution of two (2) ounces (four (4) ounces for maintenance of Cetol SRD) of Tri-Sodium Phosphate (TSP) or a phosphate-free substitute plus one (1) quart of liquid bleach in three (3) quarts of water. Apply this solution with a garden pump sprayer to the surface.
3. Let the solution sit on the wood for 15-20 minutes. Do not let the solution dry on the surface.
4. Power-wash the cleaning solution from the surface with clean water. To prevent damaging the wood, do not exceed 500 psi. The nozzle must be a maximum of one (1) foot from the surface for full effectiveness. Use of a home garden hose (approximately 60 psi) is not suitable – proper power washing equipment must be used for maximum effectiveness.
5. Let the surface dry for three (3) good dry days.
6. Proceed with application of the maintenance coat.
### Overall Wood Coverage

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<th>Coverage</th>
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<td>Cetol 1 (for rough or old wood)</td>
<td>200-300 sq. ft./US gallon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cetol 1 (for smooth or new wood)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cetol 23 Plus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cetol TGL Satin / Gloss</td>
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<td>Cetol SRD (for rough or old Wood)</td>
<td>100-150 sq. ft./US gallon</td>
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<td>Cetol SRD (for smooth or new Wood)</td>
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<td>Cetol DEK</td>
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<td>Opaque Satin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wood Preservative</td>
<td>150-300 sq. ft./US gallon</td>
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### Product Usage Chart

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<th>Cetol 1 SRD</th>
<th>Cetol TGL Satin / Gloss</th>
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- CETOL 1 SYSTEM
- CETOL 1 & 23 PLUS
- CETOL 1 SRD
- CETOL TGL SATIN / GLOSS
- RUBBOL SOLID STAIN
- OPAQUE SATIN
- CETOL DEK BASE & DEK
- CETOL DEK
- RUBBOL DEK