



OVERALL SCORE



✓ RECOMMENDED

Behr Premium Semi-Transparent Waterproofing Stain & Sealer (Home Depot)

This model has been tested by our experts.

Ratings Scorecard

Test Results

Appearance after 1 year	↑ Very Good
Appearance after 2 years	↑ Very Good
Appearance after 3 years	N/A

Features & Specs

Specs

Resists cracking	Yes
Resists color change	Yes
Resists dirt	Yes
Resists mildew	Yes
VOCs (grams/liter)	100

CR's Take

Semi-transparent stains give up some longevity but let some of the wood grain show through. This finish still looked good after the equivalent of six years outdoors on a house (and other vertical surfaces) and two years on a deck. It also provided the most protection among semi-transparent finishes, resisting cracking, color change, and mildew in our tests. And with a claimed 100 grams per liter of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), it meets even the toughest, regional-California limits for stains

CR's Feedback

A number of our user reviews cite problems with durability, primarily over how the product peeled off a deck in a short time after application. While we have not experienced this problem in our testing, we caution users that thorough surface prep is paramount to a long-lasting deck finish. Moreover, early peeling sometimes occurs when the product has been applied too thickly--and the excess will dry loosely on the surface. A thin initial coat is easily pulled down into the pores of the wood, improving adhesion, and a thin second coat more easily adheres to the first. (We summarize negative experiences for high-scoring models with at least 10 user reviews.)

About

The Behr Premium Semi-Transparent Waterproofing Stain & Sealer (Home Depot) is part of the Wood stain test program at Consumer Reports. In our lab tests, Wood stain models like the Premium Semi-Transparent Waterproofing Stain & Sealer (Home Depot) are rated on multiple criteria, such as those listed below.

Appearance after 1 year: Appearance after one year summarizes performance after one year of our accelerated weathering.

Appearance after 2 years: Appearance after two years summarizes performance after two years of our accelerated weathering.