

Frequently asked questions about Alcolin Woodfiller

1. What is the strongest wood filler for filling holes to hold screws?

Alcolin Mix 'n Fix QUIKWOOD. This is an oak coloured epoxy putty stick that will not shrink and can be sanded, stained and drilled.

2. Why did the Alcolin Woodfiller shrink and crack?

The woodfiller contains a percentage of water which evaporates when the product dries, causing the shrinkage. Applying Alcolin Woodfiller in layers is the recommended method for larger holes to reduce the shrinkage and cracking. Alternatively use a non-shrinking epoxy putty such as Alcolin Mix 'n Fix QUIKWOOD which contains no water.

3. I cannot find a wood filler to match the colour of my wood.

Mix two or three different Alcolin Woodfiller colours together. Alternatively add universal paint tints to obtain the desired colour. Also note that Alcolin Woodfiller will dry a slightly lighter colour than the initial wet look colour.

4. I am looking for flexible wood filler.

Use Alcolin Woodmate or Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant.

5. Is Alcolin Woodfiller suitable for a wooden deck?

No. A flexible wood filler is required for this application. Alcolin Woodfiller is not flexible. Use Alcolin Woodmate or Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant, which are waterproof as well.

6. How can I improve the adhesion of the Alcolin Woodfiller?

Simply wet the wood or for a better bond or apply a layer of diluted Alcolin Permabond or any diluted cold glue on the inside of the hole. If the bond is still not adequate, then try an epoxy putty such as Alcolin Mix 'n Fix QUIKWOOD.

7. Why did the varnish not stick to the Alcolin Woodfiller?

Some two part acid catalysed varnishes may not be compatible with Alcolin Woodfiller. The acid in the catalyst reacts negatively with the alkali fillers incorporated into the woodfiller. Another common reason for this problem is that the woodfiller has not dried sufficiently – the moisture in the woodfiller gets trapped by the layer of varnish and pushes it away as it escapes. In most cases, the solution to this problem is to let the woodfiller dry thoroughly before applying the varnish. If an acid catalysed varnish is being used, then try using an acid resistant woodfiller or products such as Alcolin Mix 'n Fix Quickwood, Alcolin Woodmate, or Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant.

8. How do I soften Alcolin Woodfiller that has gone hard?

Add a little water to the container and place the container in hot water. When the contents have warmed, stir until smooth.

9. How can I speed up drying of the Alcolin Woodfiller?

To speed up drying time of Alcolin Woodfiller, use a hairdryer over the filled surface.

10. Can I sand the Alcolin Woodfiller?

Yes, Alcolin Woodfiller is sand-able.

11. Can I use Alcolin Woodfiller outdoors?

No. Use Alcolin Mix 'n Fix Quickwood, Alcolin Woodmate, or Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant. The Alcolin Woodfiller is not flexible enough to accommodate the movement associated with temperature extremes and flexible surfaces, such as swimming pool decks, that have stress areas. Alcolin Woodfiller is also not waterproof. The woodfiller can be used for small defects in low stress, shady areas, providing that it is over coated with varnish.

12. Why did the varnish bubble on the Alcolin Woodfiller?

Acid varnishes react with the calcium carbonate in the Alcolin Woodfiller, which causes the bubbling. The solution is to use an acid resistant woodfiller or products such as Alcolin Mix 'n Fix Quickwood, Alcolin Woodmate, or Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant.

13. What sealant should I use to fit built in cupboards onto a wall?

The best sealants are Alcolin Woodmate or Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant as they both offer very good adhesion and strength and come in various colours. Alcolin Woodmate has a glossy finish while Alcolin Flexible Wood Sealant has a matt finish and shrinks less than the Woodmate. Alcolin Acrylic Sealant is also suitable for this application.

14. Why did the areas where I applied Alcolin Woodfiller stain differently than the wood?

The woodfiller has a different texture to that of wood and absorbs less stain than the surrounding wood, hence the difference in colour. Make sure that the Alcolin woodfiller colour that was selected is the best colour match for the wood.

