

Sentinel Formula 538

Sentinel Formula 538 Smoke & Odor Primer/Sealer Odor Encapsulant User Manual

Model: Formula 538

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides instructions for the proper use and application of Sentinel Formula 538 Smoke & Odor Primer/Sealer Odor Encapsulant. Sentinel Formula 538 is a professional-grade, low-odor, fast-drying sealer designed to encapsulate and trap odors commonly found in restoration projects, such as smoke and other persistent smells. It is intended for use after affected areas have been thoroughly cleaned and treated with appropriate odor counteractants like Sentinel 531 or Sentinel 522.



Figure 1: Sentinel Formula 538 Clear Odor Encapsulant in 5-gallon and 1-gallon containers. This product is designed to seal and trap odors on various surfaces.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always read and understand the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before using this product. Adhere to all local, state, and federal regulations.

- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation during application and drying. Use respiratory protection if ventilation is insufficient.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Wear appropriate PPE, including safety glasses, chemical-resistant gloves, and protective clothing, to prevent skin and eye contact.
- **Flammability:** This product is oil-based. Keep away from open flames, sparks, and other ignition sources. Do not smoke while using.
- **Ingestion:** Do not ingest. If swallowed, seek immediate medical attention.
- **Skin/Eye Contact:** In case of contact, flush thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
- **Children and Pets:** Keep out of reach of children and pets.

3. PREPARATION

3.1 Surface Preparation

For optimal performance, surfaces must be clean, dry, and free of loose debris, dirt, grease, oil, and other contaminants. It is highly recommended to clean and treat affected areas with Sentinel 531 Smoke & Odor Counteractant or Sentinel 522 Smoke & Odor Cleaner & Destroyer prior to applying Formula 538.

- Remove any loose or peeling paint.
- Repair any structural damage to the surface.
- Ensure the surface is completely dry before application.

3.2 Environmental Conditions

Apply in temperatures between 50°F (10°C) and 90°F (32°C). Relative humidity should be below 85%.

3.3 Product Preparation

Stir the product thoroughly before use and periodically during application to ensure uniform consistency.

4. APPLICATION

4.1 Application Methods

Sentinel Formula 538 can be applied using a brush, roller, or airless sprayer.

- **Brush:** Use a high-quality synthetic or natural bristle brush.
- **Roller:** Use a short-nap roller cover (3/8" to 1/2") for smooth to semi-smooth surfaces.
- **Airless Sprayer:** Consult sprayer manufacturer's recommendations for tip size and pressure settings. Typically, a 0.015-0.019 inch tip with 2000-2500 PSI is suitable.

4.2 Coverage

Expected coverage is approximately 1750-2000 square feet per gallon, depending on surface porosity and application method.

4.3 Number of Coats

A single coat is often sufficient for odor encapsulation. For heavily stained or severely odorous surfaces, a second coat may be applied after the first coat has dried to the touch.

5. DRYING AND CURING

- **Touch Dry:** Approximately 30-60 minutes under normal conditions (70°F / 21°C, 50% relative humidity).
- **Recoat Time:** If a second coat is needed, allow 2-4 hours before recoating.
- **Full Cure:** Full cure and maximum odor encapsulation properties are achieved within 24-48 hours.

Drying times may vary based on temperature, humidity, and film thickness.

6. CLEANUP

Clean tools and equipment immediately after use with mineral spirits or paint thinner. Dispose of waste materials in accordance with local regulations.

7. STORAGE

Store Sentinel Formula 538 in its original, tightly sealed container in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area. Protect from freezing and extreme heat. Keep away from ignition sources.

8. TROUBLESHOOTING

Issue	Possible Cause	Solution
Odor persists after application	Inadequate surface cleaning; insufficient product application; severe odor source.	Ensure thorough cleaning and pre-treatment with Sentinel 531/522. Apply a second coat of Formula 538. Identify and remove the primary odor source if possible.
Poor adhesion	Surface not clean or dry; incompatible previous coating.	Ensure proper surface preparation. Test a small area for compatibility before full application.
Slow drying time	High humidity; low temperature; excessive film thickness.	Improve ventilation. Increase room temperature. Apply thinner coats.

9. SPECIFICATIONS

Brand: Sentinel

Model Name: Formula 538

Color: Clear

Finish Type: Matte

Item Volume: 5 Gallons (640.0 Fluid Ounces)

Special Feature: Fast-Drying, Low Odor

Paint Type: Oil

Specific Uses For Product: Interior/Exterior

Surface Recommendation: General Surfaces

Coverage: 1750-2000 sq ft/gallon

Water Resistance Level: Water Resistant

10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Sentinel products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty information or technical support, please contact Sentinel customer service directly. Contact details can typically be found on the product label or the manufacturer's official website.

For further assistance, visit the [Sentinel Brand Store on Amazon](#).

