



PAINING, STAINING, AND SEALING

WEATHER THE ELEMENTS

TIPS FOR PAINTING, STAINING, AND SEALING TREATED LUMBER

Over time, pressure treated lumber is susceptible to splits, cracks, checks, and other appearance issues. To minimize these effects, you must paint, stain, and/or seal wood as soon as it reacts to water according to the “water test” below.

Note: Your project can be ready for painting, staining, or sealing as soon as 30 days after completion.

WATER TEST

Drop water onto the surface of the wood:

- If water remains on the surface, the wood is not ready for painting, staining, and/or sealing. Wait longer.
- If water is absorbed into the wood, it is time to seal, stain, and/or paint.

For enhanced protection, apply sealant after painting or staining. In fact, we highly recommend it.

GENERAL APPLICATION TIPS

PAINTING

- Perform the water test. See above.
- Apply an alkyd oil-based primer.
- Be sure to prime any cut ends.
- Apply two coats of high-quality acrylic latex paint.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

STAINING

- Perform the water test. See above.
- Use a high-quality oil-based stain with the longest warranty.
- A stain with a water repellent and a UV stabilizer is recommended.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

SEALING

- Perform the water test. See above.
- For a natural appearance, apply transparent or semi-transparent sealant.
- Choose a sealant with a UV stabilizer.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations.

