



12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### **Weatherboard and Cladding Products - Installation and Care Guidelines**

Thank you for selecting solid timber cladding or weatherboards from Wright Forest Products. This product is manufactured from sustainably managed and certified premium Nordic softwood. Please ensure you are installing weatherboards or cladding products in accordance with all National, State and Local regulations, and standards for the site.

Proper installation and maintenance will extend the life of your cladding or weatherboard indefinitely, so-for best results we strongly recommend you adhere to the following guidelines:

- **Do not** remove the factory applied primer, it will void your warranty. (see Preparation)
- **Do not** use any glues, silicone, or caulking compound to fix overlaps or end joins. The overlap configuration and correct installation method allows each board to freely expand and contract with the seasons. This is a natural occurrence throughout the life of the product.
- **Do not** use this product installed in direct contact with the ground.
- **Avoid** installing weatherboards and cladding during periods of extreme heat or cold or during wet weather.
- **Avoid** use dark coloured topcoats. Dark colours absorb heat which may distort the boards and cause sap bleed.

#### **Preparation**

- **Always** use an experienced and suitably qualified installer and painter.
- When delivered to site, ensure the boards are stacked flat, and not in contact with the ground. Store in a cool dry area, sheltered from rain and direct sunlight.
- **Always** apply your first topcoat prior to installation. It is important to understand the purpose of a priming coat is to allow superior bonding of the top coat to the substrate. Priming alone does not protect against moisture absorption or exposure to the elements. Primed products use a water-borne alkyd primer and can be top coated with acrylic or oil-based paints.

#### **Installation**

- **Always** apply at least one topcoat prior to installation. This will eliminate the unsightliness of unpainted underlaps being revealed by the boards' natural movement. This also gives improved protection in the event of any unwanted water penetration.
- Joins should be staggered and only occur over studs.
- Seal all ends, and re-seal all trimmed ends during or prior to installation.
- Use only stainless steel or similar corrosion-resistant nails, and pre-drill when nailing close to ends of boards.
- Boards should be nailed on each stud. Nails must penetrate through only one board and be angled upwards to avoid water tracking down along the nail.
- Boards should be fixed over sheathing ply or a vapour-permeable building paper installed to the manufacturer's recommendations.

## Care and Maintenance

- Periodically inspect your weatherboards or cladding installation. Check if there are areas where the paint has cracked or peeled. Ensure the timber substrate is not exposed to weathering or ingress of water that may allow rot to establish.
- Repaint periodically to ensure the boards remain sealed from the elements.
- With these simple measures your exterior weatherboards or cladding will last indefinitely.

## Handling and Safety

- **Disposal** – only dispose of primed and treated wood waste at your local refuse disposal facility.
- **Eyes** - wood dust can cause allergic or mechanical eye irritation. if irritation occurs flush with water and seek medical help if irritation persists. always wear eye protection to AS1337–1992 when working with this product.
- **Respiratory** - wood dust may cause respiratory irritation, nasal dryness, coughing, sneezing, and wheezing as a result of inhalation. Wood dust may aggravate pre-existing respiratory conditions or allergies in sensitive individuals. Provide adequate ventilation as appropriate. Respiratory filtration devices to AS/NZS 1715-1994 should be worn where wood dust is present, and the use of compressed air for clean-up should be avoided.
- **Skin** - wood dust can elicit allergic contact dermatitis through prolonged, repetitive contact or exposure to elevated dust levels. Protective gloves are recommended where appropriate. Coverall garments may be more suitable in extremely dusty areas. If treated wood dust accumulates on clothes, launder separately from other household clothing before reuse. Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water prior to eating, drinking or general hand to mouth contact.

For further information visit [www.wrightforestproducts.com.au](http://www.wrightforestproducts.com.au) or call us on 1800 102 045 during business hours.

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