

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

GENERAL: The suggestions and recommendations below should be followed to achieve satisfactory performance of any TruWood Product. Failure to comply may result in a reduced useful life of the Product and void the Product warranty.

INSPECTION: The Product should be inspected periodically in accordance with the following maintenance items: (i) re-nail loose Product; (ii) trim trees and bushes that are in contact with the Product; (iii) replace sealant that has hardened, cracked and/or lost its seal; (iv) correct grade drainage where retained water is in contact with the Product and maintain 6 in. clearance between grade and siding; (v) eliminate overspray from lawn and landscaping sprinklers; (vi) check the condition of Coating as set forth below; (vii) follow any applicable paint manufacturer's repainting recommendations; and (viii) maintain gutters and downspouts. (See TruWood Instructions' "Key Homeowner Maintenance Responsibilities.")

REFINISHING: Exterior wall finishes degrade most rapidly on those portions of the building that receive the greatest exposure to sun and moisture. The frequency of refinish will depend on exposure, geographic locations; the type, quality and color of the paint; and on other factors such as the method of paint application and the number of coats. Repainting is dictated by the degree of wear or erosion of the old paint. Refinishing is typically required if the Product is discolored and blotchy; if the Coating is cracked, peeling or scaling; or if the Coating appears thin, porous and chalked to a point where it no longer protects or hides the surface. Severe paint cracking, flaking or peeling is not normal paint weathering. Such problems may be caused by inferior paints, incompatible paints, improper painting procedures or by improper construction that permits water or water vapor to reach, condense, or freeze on the back side of the Product. (See TruWood Instructions' "Painting".)

Frequent repainting can result in excessive total paint film thickness, which may cause problems such as cracking and pooling. On the other hand, unreasonable delays in maintenance repainting may contribute to deterioration of both the paint and Product such that refinishing cannot be accomplished effectively. In general, it is recommended that the total Coating film thickness be maintained at 4 dry mils. This typically is considered the equivalent of three coats of finish (one coat of primer plus two coats of finish paint).

SURFACE PREPARATION: The extent of surface preparation is dependent on the condition of the old finish. Loose paint material should be removed. The surface should be washed and all mildew must be removed before painting. Use of a power washer is not recommended. (See TruWood Instructions' "Key Homeowner Maintenance Responsibilities" and "Painting".)

REPRIMING: If the old surface is sound (no peeling, cracking, heavy sealant, etc.), repriming is typically not necessary unless it is recommended by the paint manufacturer for the top coat chosen. If the Product's base substrate and/or if the old primer is exposed, these areas should be reprimed. If the Product's edges or ends show any cracks or fissures, these should be resealed with a primer. (Only premium exterior oil/alkyd type primers or premium acrylic latex primers are recommended.) The primer used must be compatible with the chosen top coat and the primer manufacturer recommendations followed in all respects. (See TruWood Instructions' "Painting".)

SELECTING AND APPLYING FINISH COAT PAINTS/STAINS: These recommendations deal with refinish over field-applied finish coats. A premium paint that is suitable for use on engineered wood siding must be used. The finish chosen should be compatible with the existing old finish. Only premium exterior acrylic latex paints are recommended when finish is applied to textured products. Satin or gloss oil/alkyd paints are also acceptable, as are opaque acrylic latex stains. The following finish coats (paints/stains) are not recommended: shake and shingle paints, flat alkyd oil-based paints and stains, vinyl acetate (PVA), vinyl/acrylic or vinyl/acetate/acrylic copolymer paints and stains, semi-transparent stains, clear coatings. The finish coat of paint or stain should be applied in strict accordance with the recommendations of the paint manufacturer. (See TruWood Instructions' "Painting".)

MILDEW: Mildew, mold and other fungus growths must be removed from the Product particularly before repainting the Product. This may be accomplished by scrubbing the infected surface thoroughly with mildew removal products or the following solution:

- 2/3 cup TSP (trisodium phosphate) – available in paint or hardware stores
- 1/3 cup detergent containing no ammonia (Tide or the equivalent)
- 1 quart 5% sodium hypochlorite (Clorox or the equivalent)
- 3 quarts warm water or enough to make one gallon

Protective hand and eyewear must be worn when applying any removal product or the solution. The Product should be scrubbed with a soft brush and then rinsed thoroughly with fresh water. Do not place or splash the solution on landscaping. Promptly after the Product has been cleaned and has dried, a mildew resistant paint should be applied.

CONTACT US

To receive Warranty information, Product information bulletins and other information concerning the proper installation, use and/or maintenance of your Product, please contact TruWood at:

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