

Maintenance instructions cladding

In this document you can read how to best maintain Platowood cladding to preserve the appearance of the wood. Platowood wood can be used untreated, in which case it will naturally weather into a silvery-grey shade.

It is important that the façade is cleaned annually. In addition, maintaining and touching up wood with a colour finish is important.

Regardless of whether you have chosen untreated Platowood or with a finish; it is important to regularly inspect, maintain and clean the wooden cladding. Small imperfections resulting from the properties of the wood are normal and are not covered by the warranty. Dates of cleaning and inspection, location of damage and details of the maintenance must be recorded in a logbook so that this can be checked at any time.

Pre-weathering (Weathered)

The Weathered finish has been developed to give the wood a grey colour that imitates natural weathering. The idea behind this is that the wood has a uniform colour at installation. After that, the coating, subject to weather and sun, will slowly degrade. The natural weathering of the wood will then gradually take over. Parts that are less or not exposed to the elements will degrade more slowly and retain their colour by means of the coating. The weathering of the wood is a completely natural process that is influenced by various factors.

If it is desirable to maintain the uniform colour, the pre-weathering must also be maintained, the same as a colour finish.

Natural phenomena such as wasp gnawing and the wood grain over time

In summer we often see wasps gnawing at wood. Wasps build nests and use wood fibres for this. Trees, but also wooden cladding, can be targeted by wasps. Especially when wood has weathered and therefore become somewhat worn, the superficial wood fibres can be relatively easy for wasps to gnaw.

Is wasp gnawing harmful to wood?

Wasp gnawing is visible on the wood surface. This is not real wood damage, but rather a visual aspect. The wood may show some spots or streaks. The colour difference usually recovers quickly as the underlying fibres weather again due to sun and rain.

Maintenance of finishes and warranty

The table below shows the maintenance interval of the various finishes and what maintenance must be carried out. Is the chosen finish not listed in the table? Then please contact us.

Finish	Maintenance interval	Maintenance (annual)	Warranty (decreasing)
Platowood untreated	N/A	Cleaning	N/A
Weathered	N/A	Cleaning	No
Oil (1)	9-12 months	Cleaning and touch-up	No (product warranty)
Oil met Sunprimer (1)	First maintenance after 2 years, then interval of 3 years	Cleaning and touch-up	No (product warranty)
Burned wood Oil with Sunprimer (1)	First maintenance after 3 years, then interval of 5 years	Cleaning and touch-up	No (product warranty)
WFX + pre-weathering	N/A	Inspection every six months	No (product warranty)
Natural Coat (2)	4 – 6 years (3)	Cleaning and touch-up	Ja, 6 years (4)
Natural Warm (2)	4 – 6 years (3)	Cleaning and touch-up	Ja, 6 years (4)
Burned (2)	4 – 6 years (3)	Cleaning and touch-up	Ja, 6 years (4)
Color (RAL-color) (2)	4 – 6 years (3)	Cleaning and touch-up	Ja, 6 years (4)
Bio FireProtect (fire-retardant treatment)	N/A	Cleaning	N/A
Bio FireProtect in combination with colour finish	See colour finish*	See colour finish*	See colour finish*

* The above maintenance periods and warranty conditions are based on SW-System1

- (1) Due to changed legislation we can no longer supply new projects with oil.
- (2) All our colour finishes are based on stain. And are always – with the exception of Weathered – applied on a brushed surface. If this finish is desired on a smooth surface, then no warranty applies and the maintenance interval is 2 to 3 years.
- (3) In severe weather conditions complete repainting may be required earlier than under normal conditions. Think of wooden parts in full sun, exposed locations, wooded environment, salty air, near the coast, south and southwest orientation or horizontal parts. Not cleaning periodically also leads to a shortened maintenance interval.
- (4) The last 3 years are decreasing by 25% per year.

The **Color** finish (RAL colours) has a maintenance interval of 4 to 6 years on a brushed surface. Platowood offers the possibility of a 10-year warranty on this finish. If this warranty is desired,

this must be stated when placing the order. The wood must then always be brushed to obtain the best paint adhesion. For further details we refer to the conditions of our coater.

1. Cleaning cladding

When cleaning Platowood cladding it is important to work calmly and carefully. The best method is to use a soft brush or sponge with water.

Note! Never clean the façade with a high-pressure cleaner. This causes the fibres of the surface to open and stand upright. As a result, dirt will adhere to the surface more quickly.

For untreated façades it is possible to add a small amount of soft soap to the water. When adding soap, do not use corrosive or abrasive cleaning agents. A suitable product for extra powerful cleaning is the KIVA product “professional façade cleaner”.

Façades that are fine-sawn, roughened or brushed will retain dirt more quickly due to the rough surface. It is recommended to clean these façades more often.

After cleaning rinse the façade well with water and allow it to dry before possibly treating it. Cleaning will make the Platowood façade look radiant again, retain less moisture and dirt, and thus benefit its lifespan.

2. Maintenance of stain-based finish

Paintwork is always subject to external (weather) factors. Parts that are touched up will therefore almost always show colour and/or gloss differences compared to the existing paintwork.

The correct colour stain can be ordered via Platowood by stating the reference number. This ensures you always have the right colour.

The condition of the paintwork must be inspected annually and, if necessary, touched up and/or repainted. Dates of cleaning and inspection, location of damage and details of the maintenance must be recorded in a logbook.

We recommend having the maintenance carried out by a professional painter.

Treatment

- Inspect the wood for any damage in the coating and touch up where necessary using the following steps.
- Lightly sand the wood with a sanding sponge if necessary and then remove the dust.
- Stir the paint well before use. Apply the layers generously and evenly with a brush or roller. If the drying time between the layers exceeds 24 hours, the surface must be sanded again.
- Touch up the wood two to three times with the desired product and always follow the instructions on the packaging. A good rule of thumb is not to apply the paint below 5°C and not in full sun, with a maximum relative humidity of 65%.
- Always follow the (safety) instructions on the product packaging.

Points of attention

- Ensure that cleaning and paint products are stored frost-free and well sealed.
- Do not use equipment or other means that can damage the paint layer.
- Do not work in full sun, to prevent streaking from water.

3. Maintenance of oil-based products

In principle, the procedure is the same as described above for the stain. The difference, however, lies in the products to be used. Always consult the instructions on the datasheets of RUBIO.

- 1) Only touch up with the colour-matched RUBIO TDS RMC Hybrid Wood Protector. It is important to state the original reference number when reordering the coating, so that the correct colour is always used. Note! Always test first on a surface that is not visible.
- 2) If the surface has not been maintained for a very long time and the wood has meanwhile (partly) weathered/greyed, then remove all remaining oil and clean it with the RUBIO TDC Exterior Wood Cleaner. Then rebuild with the RUBIO TDS RMC Hybrid Wood Protector.
- 3) A new development in recent years is the product TDS Sunprimer HWP from RUBIO. This further extends the lifespan and thus the maintenance interval. The colour tint also gives an extra effect to the wood. For this, however, the system must be rebuilt. Note! The RUBIO Sunprimer also has a specially colour-matched tint.

4. Maintenance of Saicos products on wood impregnated with WFX (fire-retardant system)

In principle, the procedure is the same as described above for the stain. The difference, however, lies in the products to be used. Always consult the instructions on the datasheets of Saicos, system 7685.

5. Maintenance of the coating on wood treated with Bio Fire Protect

In principle, the procedure is the same as described above for the stain. Always consult the instructions on the datasheets of the coating.

Excluded from warranty

In addition to regular inspection and cleaning, it is important that the wood is installed correctly. Always consult our installation instructions for proper installation.

If the wood is not installed or maintained correctly, Platowood accepts no liability of any kind.

Other reasons that will void the warranty:

- a. Mechanical damage resulting from improper use and/or incorrect installation.
- b. Any damage caused by external circumstances that cannot be attributed to the supplier, including lightning strikes and vandalism.
- c. Bleeding, discolouration, chalking and colour show-through, as well as normal fading and discolouration over time due to weather exposure.
- d. Mould growth, soiling, algae growth, minor colour variations and damage caused by external influences.
- e. Subsequent damage resulting from cracking or settlement of the structure.
- f. Constructional deficiencies, such as insufficient ventilation.
- g. Damage resulting from changes to the use and/or load.
- h. Damage resulting from a lack of or inadequate maintenance of the coating.
- i. Façade cladding installed as roof cladding, either horizontally or diagonally.
- j. Profiles with sharp edges; edges must be rounded.
- k. Smooth-planed wood with a coating. Smooth-planed wood can be treated; however, it is a very maintenance-intensive product.
- l. Smooth sections of otherwise brushed profiles will also require additional maintenance, such as the grooves of a double-rhombus profile or the smooth sides of a board.
- m. Faster aesthetic degradation of finishes with an untreated appearance or semi-transparent colour, where the wood grain and natural wood colour remain clearly visible. This type of finish contains fewer colour pigments and UV blockers, providing the wood with less protection against sunlight and weathering. This faster aesthetic degradation is not a technical defect in the coating, but a natural consequence of the chosen appearance. This change may occur more quickly, particularly with darker wood species and modified wood, and may in some cases become visible within four weeks.