

SEMI-TRANSPARENT ACRYLICS

Similar to the opaque acrylics but with less pigment content.

Semi-transparent; good for enhancing and rejuvenating natural timber.

Retain the natural texture of the timber better than opaque acrylics.

Very quick drying Water clean up.

Example: **Haymes** Dexpress and Timber Stain

CLEAR FILM-BUILD COATINGS

- Clear or nearly clear, film-build coatings are like polyurethanes on flooring in that a film is built up on top of the timber surface.

- Good for preserving the new look of natural timber.

- Low sheen gloss level.

- Water proof; help keep timber dry.

- Easily washed and hosed off.

- Prevent greying of the timber.

- Durable; UV inhibitors prolong film life. Recoat every three to five years.

- More durable than clear oils, but more work to prepare and recoat.

Water and solvent versions available.

Examples of clear film-build coatings:

Sikkens: (A and B are alternatives)

Softwood cladding, rough sawn: One coat of HLS Natural, then two coats of Supernatural (water based)(B)

Three coats of Filter 7 Natural (solvent based)

Softwood cladding, smooth: One coat of HLS Natural, then two coats of Supernatural (water based) One coat of HLS Natural, then two coats of Filter 7 Natural

(solvent based)

Hardwood cladding, rough sawn or smooth: One coat HLS Natural, then two coats of Filter 7 Natural (solvent based) Three coats of Filter 7 Natural (solvent based)

Note: Sikkens HLS is available as Natural and in 9 colours.

Haymes Uvex Timber Finish available in 6 colours

TRANSLUCENT (TINTED) FILM BUILD COATINGS

Identical to clear film-build coatings, but with a tint added.

Example of translucent (tinted) film-build coatings:

Sikkens:

Softwood cladding, rough sawn: (A) One coat of HLS in colour required, then two coats of Supernatural(B)

Three coats of Filter 7 in colour required (6 colours plus Natural)

Softwood cladding, smooth: One coat of HLS in colour required, then two coats of Supernatural One coat of HLS in colour required, then two coats of Filter 7 Natural

Hardwood cladding, rough sawn or smooth: One coat HLS in colour required, then two coats of Filter 7 Natural

Three coats of Filter 7 in colour required (6 colours plus Natural)

Beautiful, Renewable, Timber

Timber Advice and Display Centre



Hours of Business

Monday to Friday 8.30am—5.00pm

Saturday 9.00am—5.00pm

Sunday Closed

Cladding Finishes

A SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE



Experts in Timber

180 Whitehorse Road
Blackburn, Victoria, 3130

Phone: 03 9875 5010

Fax: 03 9877 6663

E-mail: advisory@timber.asn.au

A SUMMARY OF THE TYPES AND THEIR CHARACTERISTICS

Timber cladding used on timber framed houses should be coated after installation in order to prevent greying of the timber, retard or prevent checking and cracking of the surface, and, in the case of untreated timber cladding, prevent decay.

The main types of timber cladding are:

- Plywood made to AS 2269, with individual veneers pressure treated to H3 and glued together with a completely water-proof Type A bond (usually Phenol Formaldehyde).
- Treated Pine boards, vertically or horizontally fixed, treated to H3 under AS 1604.
- Baltic Pine weatherboards. Normally untreated but pre-primed.
- Western Red Cedar boards, vertically or horizontally fixed.
- Compressed "Masonite" boards such as "Weathertex"

Class 1 or Class 2 timber cladding boards (such as Spotted Gum and Silver Top Ash) in both vertical and horizontal patterns.

Most timber cladding is available in both "rough sawn" and "smooth" surface finishes. Sawn surfaces, being rougher and more fibrous, absorb oils better. Smooth surfaces take paint better. All timber cladding should be coated after installation, because:

Ultra violet light reacts with the lignin in timber cells and turns timber grey. This greying is not structurally damaging but some people do not like it. Coatings retard or prevent greying, depending on opacity.

Left uncoated, timber (particularly softwoods) will absorb moisture readily and expand, then shrink as it dries out. Frequent repetitions of this cycle lead to surface cracking and checking. Coatings retard or prevent this cycle, depending on type.

Continuously high (>20%) moisture content is likely to lead to fungal attack. Fungi can invade timber, consume it and leave it weakened. Coatings can keep the moisture content below 20% and thereby prevent decay.

The main types of coatings for timber cladding are explained below.

It is worth noting that the back or inside of timber cladding fixed to house framework must be able to breathe. If moisture condenses inside the wall cavity and cannot escape, the back of the cladding will take on a high moisture content. In the short term, this may cause cupping of boards. If prolonged, fungal spores, which are small and numerous in the air, will take hold in the timber and decay will result. If using foil insulation immediately under timber cladding, ensure that insulation is of the breathable type, or that an air space is created by battens separating the foil from the cladding, so as to permit air flow.

TRANSPARENT OILS

- Essentially oils such as Linseed Oil and Tung Oil dissolved in a hydrocarbon solvent base. The solvent helps the timber to absorb the oils. Oil should be absorbed by the timber fibres and not simply form a coat on the surface. Being un-pigmented, transparent oils do not last as long as pigmented versions, being more easily degraded by ultra violet light. They do however enhance the natural colour of the timber best.
Help retard greying but don't entirely prevent it.
Water repellent; help keep timber dry.
Recoating is easy – no need to sand, just ensure timber is clean and dry and re-apply one coat. Recoat every two years.
Most versions include a mouldicide to prevent moulds blackening the surface.
Turps clean up.

PIGMENTED OILS

Similar to Transparent Oils but with a larger pigment content.

One coat is semi-transparent

Two coats will overwhelm the natural colour of any timber and form a dense or opaque coating.

Good for changing the colour of timber and for making old, weathered cladding look new. Retain the natural texture of timber better than acrylics.

Water repellent; help keep timber dry.

Durable, as the high pigment content acts as an effective absorber and reflector of UV light.

For dressed and sawn surfaces.

Completely prevents greying of timber.

Turps clean up.

OPAQUE ACRYLICS

Unlike the oils, acrylics form a film on top of the timber surface.

Totally opaque; good for changing the colour of timber to "house" colours including blues, browns, greys, greens and reds.

Two coats will form a tough, flexible film that will not crack readily.

Durable, as the high pigment content acts as an effective absorber and reflector of UV light.

Water repellent; help keep timber dry.

No primer required; apply two coats straight onto timber.

Very quick drying Water clean up.