



Asia Building Materials Limited

PAULOWNIA

Boards/Pattern Stock/Sidings

PRODUCT STORAGE AND FINISHING

As with all kiln dried finish lumber, Paulownia boards, pattern stock and sidings should be kept dry at all times and stored in a covered building/warehouse that is protected from the weather, preferably stored off the ground and with the lumber wrap intact. Paulownia products should be allowed to acclimate to current weather conditions for several days before installation or finishing.

Although Paulownia products are factory primed with an exterior alkyd oil-based primer, they need to be finished with at least one, preferably two topcoats of either exterior 100% acrylic latex (water-based) or exterior alkyd oil-based paint as soon as possible after being installed. **When Paulownia boards or siding are installed for exterior use, primer should be applied to the cut ends and or ripped sides/edges of boards before installation and painting.**

In addition to generally accepted building practices, make sure the Paulownia products to be painted are clean and dry and painted within recommended temperature parameters. The curing process of paint will not continue when the air temperature drops below 45 degrees Fahrenheit. Not only is this temperature parameter important the day of painting, but also for the next several days and nights. Pay close attention to the temperature of the boards to be painted, the air temperature, and the temperature of the paint – all should be above 45 degrees Fahrenheit. And, do not apply paint when the temperature is above 85 degrees, in direct sunlight, or onto a “hot” board. Never thin the paint. Do not paint/topcoat in very humid or in windy condition as paint solvents will dry more rapidly than the other liquids in the paint causing loss of paint adhesion.

Disclaimer: The above suggestions are for informational purposes only. Always follow paint manufacturer recommendations as they are specific to the type of paint being used. Most manufacturers recommend that slick or glossy surfaces be dulled before painting.

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Painting Factory Primed PAULOWNIA Boards/Pattern Stock/Sidings

Asia Building Materials Paulownia products are factory primed with a high quality exterior alkyd oil-based primer and should be painted/finished with one or two topcoats of either 100% latex (water-based) paint or oil-based paint - as soon as possible after being installed.

When the products are installed for exterior use, primer should be applied to the cut ends of before painting to keep out any moisture.

Aside from generally accepted practices of making sure the Paulownia products to be painted are clean and dry and painted within recommended temperature parameters, most paint manufacturers recommend that on very smooth, glossy surfaces – like the surfaces on Paulownia products – the surface should be scuff sanded before painting. And, a paint formulated for use on smooth surfaces should be used. Most importantly is that the paint must be allowed full curing time which, in some cases is up to 30 days – even longer in colder weather. The curing process will not continue when the temperature drops below 45 degrees Fahrenheit. Not only is this temperature parameter important the day of painting, but also for the next several days and nights. Pay close attention to the temperature of the boards to be painted, the air temperature, and the temperature of the paint – all should be above 45 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not apply paint when the temperature is above 85 degrees, in direct sunlight, or onto a “hot” board - and never thin the paint. Do not paint/topcoat in very humid or in windy condition as paint solvents will dry more rapidly than the other liquids in the paint causing loss of paint adhesion.

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Boards/Pattern Stock/Sidings

Mold and Mildew

As with all finish lumber products, Paulownia boards, pattern stock and sidings should be stored in a covered building/warehouse that is protected from weather, preferably stored off the ground and with lumber wrap intact. The boards should be kept dry and be allowed to acclimate to current weather conditions for several days before installation or finishing.

Although Paulownia products are factory primed with an exterior alkyd oil-based primer containing a mildewcide, they are not immune to the growth of mold/mildew. Mildew is a fungus that grows best in humid climate and is mostly found in shaded areas. Mildew can appear in a variety of colors, usually black, yellow or dark green, and prefers primed or painted surfaces because of the surface nutrients they provide. These nutrients float through the air and land on primed or painted surfaces. Mildew and mold tend to grow faster on flat surfaces.

Aside from the generally accepted practice of making sure the Paulownia products to be painted are clean before installing and painting, make sure the products are dry and that they stay dry until painted.

Mildew/mold will not grow on surfaces with a moisture content of less than 20%.

Paulownia products are factory kiln dried to a moisture content of 8 to 12 percent. If mold is noticed on the surface of a Paulownia product, the product has been subjected to a moisture condition of more than 20% and is the result of improper handling, storage or installation – not a product defect.

Mold and mildew can easily be cleaned from a product surface by wiping with a mixture of 1 to 3 parts household bleach to 7 to 9 parts water. Bleach does not have a residual effect, so the product should be painted/top-coated as soon as possible after the product is dry.

Disclaimer: The above suggestions are for informational purposes only. Always follow generally accepted practices for storage, handling and installation of finish lumber and sidings.