

## Paint, Stain or Clear? A Review of Exterior Wood Coatings

Wood is an incredibly versatile building material that is commonly used in residential and commercial construction. In addition to being a versatile building material, wood is a unique substrate when it comes to coating options, with opaque (paint and solid hide stains), stains (semi-transparent and translucent), and clear coatings all being available for use.

When specifying wood coatings for exterior applications, it is important to understand the type of environment the substrate will be exposed to. If the wood substrate is not suitably protected, exposure to moisture and ultraviolet rays can cause significant structural damage.



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### Professionals Tips

Pressure-treated lumber is kiln-dried wood (usually spruce or yellow pine) that is pressure-treated with chemical preservatives dispersed in water. The wood cells become saturated with water in the process that can take up to six months to dry out.

When the wood is dry, it can be painted or stained like any other wood surface. Pressure-treated wood that is not painted or stained will weather, crack, and check as badly as untreated wood over time.

### MPI Updates

Registration for the MPI Commercial Coatings Summit is now open! Join us in August 2021, both in-person and online, to hear presentations on numerous current issues facing the coatings industry today, including the state of the industry, strategic industry shifts, the role of standards in coatings and a variety of other topics.



Expand your expertise and set the new standard for protective coatings!

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