

Pressure-Treated Wood Information

Commonly Asked Questions

Is any maintenance necessary?

To maintain the beauty of your project and protect it against the effects of moisture, clean the wood surface and apply a topical water repellent annually.

Can I clean moldy or dingy wood?

Yes. Mold growth may occur on building products, including untreated or treated wood. To remove mold or mildew from a treated wood surface, use mild soap and water or commercially available cleaners.

Can you paint or stain pressure-treated wood?

Check the label of the coating product and follow the manufacturer's instructions. You can apply some stains immediately after building your project. We recommend waiting up to one year for the wood to dry out before applying a film-forming coating such as paint. Otherwise you may get poor adhesion.

General Information

- The preservative treatment provides long-term resistance to termite damage and fungal decay.
- Some chemical may migrate from treated wood and may also be dislodged from the wood surface upon contact with skin.
- Meets requirements of model building codes.
- Initially greenish, the wood changes to a brown color which fades to gray.
- Environmentally responsible – uses common species of rapidly replenished trees, preserved in a nonpolluting, energy-efficient process.

Pressure-Treated Wood Use:

Pressure-treated wood is produced with different amounts of preservative protection for above-ground and ground-contact applications. Make sure the use noted on the lumber tag matches your intended use. When it does, this wood is ideal for many residential and commercial applications such as:

- Decks
- Fences
- Walkways
- Retaining walls
- Picnic Tables
- Planter Boxes
- Benches
- Gazebos



- QUALITY YOU CAN SEE -

Pressure-Treated Wood Information

Construction & Maintenance Recommendations

- When fasteners and connectors are used in direct contact with treated wood, observe requirements of building codes and recommendations of hardware manufacturers.
- Butt deck boards together during construction to allow for initial shrinkage, which can be as much as 3/4" for a 6" wide piece of wood.
- 5/4 deck boards should be placed on 16 inch centers.
- To reduce splitting, drill a pilot hole about 3/4 of the diameter of the screw or nail.
- For 2" lumber, use 12d nails or 3" screws.
- For 5/4 decking, use 10d nails or 2 1/2" screws.
- Screws are recommended for their greater holding power.
- To help maximize surface protection and to keep your decking project looking better longer, apply a deck protection product annually.
- To revitalize a dingy appearance caused by dirt, mold or mildew, use deck wash to clean the wood.

Handling Instructions

- Do not burn pressure-treated wood.
- Wear a dust mask, goggles and gloves when cutting or handling treated or untreated wood.
- After working with wood, wash exposed areas thoroughly.
- Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing before reuse.
- Pressure-treated wood should not be used where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as fresh water docks and bridges.
- Do not use pressure-treated wood in circumstances where the preservative may become a component of food, animal feed, or beehives.
- Do not use pressure-treated wood for mulch.
- Aluminum should not be used in direct contact with this wood. To do so would require an adequate physical barrier between the metal and the wood.

Lifetime Limited Warranty

This wood is backed by a lifetime limited warranty in qualifying applications. See website on product end-tags for warranty information covering your use of Millstead® wood for as long as you own your home or farm.