

DID YOU KNOW?



Hints and tips from the Technical Department

PRIMING TIMBER

The purpose of a wood primer is to penetrate and stabilise the timber producing the uniform sound surface that is vital for the long life of any paint job.

Wood on its own rapidly changes when exposed to the weather, rapidly losing its surface integrity.

This can drastically affect the adhesion of any applied paint, leading to premature and unexpected failure if left uncorrected.

It is not uncommon for home owners repainting a weatherboard house on the weekends to fully strip the walls before starting to prime and top coat, and they often find themselves at a loss to explain why the new paintwork is blistering and peeling within a year.

The following guidelines are offered to help prevent this costly and avoidable situation being encountered.

1. Timber should be sanded smooth and back to a fresh coloured surface and primed, ideally the same day but certainly within 5 days or resanding will be needed.
2. Primed timber should have the topcoats applied without delay but certainly within a month or sanding and repriming will be needed.

Self priming paints like Solagard and SunProof are not exempt from the requirements of having a sound fresh timber surface to start with.