

How Soon to Finish

Generally finish products **IMMEDIATELY** after installation **PROVIDING** that the moisture content is appropriate for both the finish product being used and your locale. If the finish is not applied promptly, adhesion will be compromised (unless additional surface preparation is undertaken).

If you have installed a natural product (unfinished), apply your finish before rain and other moisture are absorbed. Ensure that you account for high humidity concerns.

If you are using a pre-finished product (where finish is applied at the manufacturing plant), ensure that the product is thoroughly dried before applying a top finish coat.

In all instances drying time varies from region to region. Excessive moisture will limit finish adhesion. Check with your professional contractor, finish manufacturer and/or sidewall product manufacturer for assistance.

Surface Cleaning

There are products that claim to be effective for removing dirt, airborne pollution marks, mildew and prior finishes. If you clean the surface prior to finishing, ensure that it is allowed to dry to the finish manufacturer's recommended moisture content level before applying a new finish. Contact your finish manufacturer for more details.

Extractive Bleeding

Extractive bleeding is characterized by the tannins in the wood being dissolved in moisture and migrating to the surface of the product. Rain will sometimes wash these stains away; however if left to weather, the sun can cause polymerization, requiring the addition of a tannin blocker and new top coat of finish (ensure proper surface preparation before applying new top coat) once the moisture problem has been solved. Compounds containing oxalic acid appear to be the most effective at removing extractive bleeding stains: ensure you use proper safety precautions and follow the oxalic acid compound manufacturer's application directions.

Extractive bleeding does not signify failure of the applied finish, but instead is found in applications where a source of moisture is present. Extractive bleeding is not a manufacturing defect nor is it a finish defect; it is a natural phenomenon that occurs in applications. Tannin blocking products help, however, the CSSB does not provide any finish warranty. Check with your sidewall product manufacturer, finish manufacturer and professional contractor for more assistance.

The CSSB does not warrant this information or instruction regarding finishes. If you see an attractive job that has endured in your locale, inquire about the type of finish used.

Once Certi-label® Western Cedar shingles and shakes are pressure-impregnated treated you must contact the treatment company to determine if a finish, such as paint or stain, is allowable. If there is any confusion whatsoever it is highly recommended that you contact both your sidewall product manufacturer and the finish manufacturer.



Robert A. Cardello Architects Photo Courtesy: Dennis Carbo Photography

Additional information on finishing as well as cleaning/maintenance can be found at www.cedarbureau.org