

Maintenance Guide

How To Get The Most Out Of Your Siding and Shingles

Congratulations and thank you for selecting Fraser Wood Siding and Shingles. With proper care and maintenance you will be able to enjoy the beauty and performance of your investment for decades. Natural wood siding does require periodic maintenance and care in order to ensure performance and retain your warranty coverage.

Natural Characteristics of Wood

Fraser Wood Siding will exhibit a variety of natural characteristics that are inherent to real wood. These natural variations are to be expected and are not defects covered by the Fraser Wood Siding Warranty, but rather, are natural, unique qualities that make a real wood appearance that is preferred over manufactured replica wood siding products. These variations will not affect your sidings' ability to protect your home. **Fraser strongly recommends that you visually inspect your siding annually and follow the maintenance recommendations as outlined below.**

1: Dirt

Dirt is unavoidable in most outdoor environments. Traffic, water splashing from garden beds and even moisture running down the wall ensures dirt will accumulate on your siding, which could cause discolouration that can often look like mould or mildew.

Please see; Step 1: Cleaning, under Care, Cleaning and Maintenance to keep your siding looking and performing great.

2: Mould and Mildew

Fraser Wood Siding's coatings contain agents which inhibit the growth of mildew. Airborne mould spores occur naturally and can settle on siding, and grow and expand provided they are exposed to moisture, humidity and have a food source. Appearing as black, green or dark coloured spots, mould spores must be removed.

To remove mould and mildew please see cleaning instructions under Care, Cleaning and Maintenance to ensure your sidings' warranty remains in effect.

3: Exposure of bare wood

Although all factory finishes are durable, it is possible the raw wood can become exposed through a chip, dent, scratch, bare knot, misuse or abuse. Any time the paint coating is damaged there is the possibility that moisture can enter the siding and cause coating failure. Exposed wood should be re-coated with the touch-up coating that was provided with the original order*. If you no longer have the touch-up coating, visit your local Sherwin-Williams retail location for a can of Latitude Exterior acrylic latex paint or equivalent coating. Bring with you your siding sample initially provided by Fraser Wood Siding for precise colour matching. Coating must only

be applied to the damaged area. Feather the new coating around the edges to minimize visible differences in the sheen and colour.

4: Fading

Fraser Wood Siding warranties our coatings against cracking, peeling and blistering due to normal weathering for a period up to 20 years. Fading will occur over the lifespan of all exterior coated products and is not covered under the warranty. Bright colours such as red and yellow can fade at a faster rate than earth tones. Once your siding has lost its pigmentation to the point of colour change it should be re-coated with Sherwin-Williams exterior acrylic latex paint.

5: Minor Defects

When purchasing a real wood product you must be aware that there may be a small percentage of boards that have one or more of the following natural defects.

- **Center heart lift (wood splints):** can be easily repaired by cutting off the lifted grain with a chisel and sanding with 80-120 grit sandpaper. Glue lifted pieces back in place with construction adhesive. Re-coat the exposed area.
- **Knot shrinkage/Knot lift:** Secure the loose knot and re-coat.
- **Bare Knots:** May be noticed periodically during your annual inspection and should be recoated.

Wood is a natural product. We do not warranty against these and other minor natural defects.

6: Chips and Scratches

Fraser Wood Siding is very durable and resistant. However, chips and scratches can occur in the finish coating for any number of reasons.

Inspect your siding regularly for bare wood. Re-touch only the visible bare wood with Sherwin-Williams coating to ensure the best colour match and longevity of your siding.

7: Sap/Resin Bleeding

In the manufacturing processes, sap will typically be dried and neutralized. However, it may be possible that some sap/resin will move to the surface of the product in the warmer summer months. Sap/resin will not harm the coating and can be easily removed once it has dried with a soft bristle brush. Sap/resin bleeding is a natural occurrence and is not covered under the warranty.

PRODUCT MUST BE RE-COATED WHEN IT SHOWS SIGNS OF NATURAL WEAR IN ORDER TO RETAIN WARRANTIES.

**Ensure the original coating has not been frozen prior to use as touch up.*

Care, Cleaning and Maintenance



Fraser Wood Siding

Your Fraser Wood Siding must be visually inspected annually and maintained according to our Care, Cleaning and Maintenance Guide to ensure the longevity of the siding.

Wood siding, like all exterior products, is susceptible to an accumulation of organic or inorganic substances on the siding surface. We recommend that you visually inspect your siding a minimum of once per year to monitor for any issues.

Failure to carry out this important and regular maintenance may void the warranty.

WARNING!

- When using a brush to clean siding, **ONLY** use a soft bristled brush similar to one used to clean the exterior of a car.
- **DO NOT USE** a pressure washer to clean your siding. The use of a pressure washer will **VOID YOUR COATING WARRANTY.**
- **DO NOT USE** harsh or abrasive detergents.
- **DO NOT USE** products containing acids or ammonia. Bleach only as directed for mould and mildew removal.
- Fraser Wood Siding uses high performance coatings designed to be soft and flexible to allow for natural expansion and contraction as temperatures change. Hard scrubbing with incorrect brushes and abrasive cleaners could damage the coating. Thoroughly read and understand all label cautions prior to using any cleaner and be sure that the cleaner is appropriate for the removal of dirt/contamination from wood siding.



Follow these steps to ensure years of performance:

STEP 1: Cleaning

It is important that you clean only an area that is in need of it, and only on that specific area.

- Start by cleaning the dirt off of the siding using only a low-pressure garden hose (under 100 psi).
- A simple spray of water from your garden hose may remove the dirt. In such cases where dirt is harder to remove, you can lightly scrub the siding using a soft brush and a store bought cleaner designed for cleaning exterior painted wood siding. Follow the precise instruction on the product packaging to prevent damage to the coating on your wood siding. Do not let the cleaner dry on the surface before rinsing. Rinse the siding thoroughly with your garden hose.
- Regularly remove or clear any vegetation or other sources of dirt that contacts the siding. Ensure that the required minimum 8" clearance from ground and garden beds is maintained.
- Ensure that eaves-trough and downspouts are installed and maintained properly to avoid clogging and splashing that may dirty or damage your siding.

If dirt still persists, the cause may be from a more specific challenge, such as air pollution, a roofing product, etc. In these circumstances, a targeted cleaning product may be required.

STEP 2: Mould and Mildew

Remove mould and mildew by washing the surface with a solution of 1 part liquid bleach and 3 parts water. With a filled garden sprayer attached to a garden hose, spray the solution to the areas that need treatment. If the issue is mould, a soft brush may be used to clean the surface. Note: Test for mould and mildew by applying a few drops of household bleach to the area. If the soiled area is bleached away, the discolouration is probably mildew; if it does not disappear, it is probably dirt. Repeat; Step: 1 Cleaning.

When done properly and on a regular basis, cleaning the siding will not damage the finish.