

# Western Red Cedar Finishing/painting Instructions



EXTERIOR SHUTTERS CONSTRUCTED OF DURABLE, DECAY-RESISTANT WESTERN RED CEDAR

Western Red Cedar shutters are naturally decay resistant. It is important that certain steps be followed to ensure that the shutter is protected from moisture and a quality finish is obtained. Painting with an air sprayer is recommended for the best possible finish, however painting with a brush can achieve similar results.

- 1. PAINT SELECTION** - A quality oil-based primer formulated for Western Red Cedar is required to assure proper adhesion to the surface as well as block any Tannin bleed that might occur.
  - Premium oil-based paints generally provide a smoother finish than latex paints. Higher quality latex paints, however, may have a longer lifespan.
- 2. SHUTTER PREPARATION**
  - Lightly sand the shutter using 150 grit sandpaper, removing any sharp edges or loose fibers.
  - Caulk and seal all joints and end-grain to prevent liquid penetration.
  - Clean off any dust by blowing the shutter with dry compressed air or a good dusting with a clean tack cloth.
- 3. PRIMING THE SHUTTER**
  - It is very important that all six sides of the shutter are caulked and primed equally.
  - Allow the primer to dry as per manufacturer instructions and re-sand the shutter with 150-180 grit sandpaper until the primer coat is smooth to the touch.
  - Apply a second coat of primer on all six sides of the shutter and re-sand the shutter with 150-180 grit sandpaper until the second primer coat is smooth to the touch. No bare wood should be visible. Spot prime as needed.
- 4. FINISH COAT**

**IMPORTANT:** Primer must be completely dry and cured before final finishing.

  - Clean off any dust by blowing the shutter with dry compressed air or a good dusting with a clean tack cloth.
  - It is very important that all six sides of the shutter are finished equally.
  - Multiple finish coats may be required to ensure uniform coverage and color. After each coat is dry, lightly sand the shutter with a 150-180 grit sandpaper until smooth to the touch.
  - Clean off any dust by blowing the shutter with dry compressed air or a good dusting with a clean tack cloth.
  - Apply final finish coat on all six sides of the shutter.
  - Allow finished shutters to dry and cure fully prior to installation.

## HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS.

Extreme caution is recommended when handling finished shutters. Nicks and dings can be prevented with planning and careful handling.

In addition, oversized shutters in wood and premium composite are subject to flex or twist when handling/installing. Its critical shutter panels be handled in a fashion to prevent twist and flex. Excessive twist or flex can and will cause paint failure at joints. Handle with care.

# Premium Fiberglass Finishing/painting Instructions



Fiberglass composite shutters are one of the most commonly purchased shutters today. They are very easy to paint and offer a limited lifetime warranty. They are extremely durable and can withstand a variety of conditions and abuse. It is important that certain steps be followed to ensure that the shutter is protected from moisture and a quality finish is obtained. Painting with an air sprayer is recommended for the best possible finish, however painting with a brush can achieve similar results.

**Heat Reflective Colorants are recommended to be used for darker colors. Use a color, with a light reflective value (LRV) equal or greater than 55 (Flat Black=0, Pure White=100).**

1. Use a cloth dampened with Acetone to thoroughly clean the shutter of any dirt, oil or dust particles. Make sure the shutter dries completely prior to moving on to the next step.
2. The shutter is ready to accept **Acrylic latex or Acrylic Urethane** paint once it is cleaned of all surface contaminants. **DO NOT SAND OR SCUFF.**
3. Use a high-quality **Acrylic latex** house paint (use exterior grade on each of the four perimeter “sides” – top, bottom and two vertical sides).
4. Apply your first coat of paint onto the shutter with sprayer or brush/roller. The most common practice is to start by painting the four sides then the top and bottom.
5. Let dry thoroughly between coats per paint manufacturer recommendation. Bubbling may be an issue if moisture is trapped due to incomplete drying.
6. Apply your last and final coat of paint onto your shutters.
7. Allow finished shutter to dry and cure fully prior to installation.

## HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS.

Extreme caution is recommended when handling finished shutters. Nicks and dings can be prevented with planning and careful handling.

In addition, oversized shutters in wood and premium composite are subject to flex or twist when handling/installing. Its critical shutter panels be handled in a fashion to prevent twist and flex. Excessive twist or flex can and will cause paint failure at joints. Handle with care.