

# EXTERIOR WOOD MAINTENANCE

## MAINTENANCE

The following information gives some basic guidelines on maintaining and redecorating factory coated exterior wood such as windows and doors.

This information relates to water based paints, which dry quickly and with little smell. Applying them requires a different brushing technique (described overleaf) from traditional oil paint.

## GENERAL CARE

Teknos factory applied coatings systems will give many years of life between re-painting cycles, and simple steps such as wiping down the joinery finish to remove dirt and insects will help extend the life of the decorative finish. This can be done at the same time as cleaning the glass.

Good household maintenance also helps to extend re-painting intervals. At least once a year:

- Hinges and handles should be checked and treated with a suitable oil.
- Dust or grime should be removed from weather seals and ventilators.
- In autumn, guttering and down pipes should be cleared, and any leaks repaired.
- Each spring, the joinery should be inspected and any minor areas of coating damage, shakes or open joints should be spot repaired.

Contact your local Teknos office for information on our wood care range.

## Repair products

There is a range of Teknos products you can use to maintain factory finished joinery. For advice on where to purchase these products, contact your nearest Teknos office.

## Primers and base stains

- AQUAPRIMER translucent or opaque range
- ANTISTAIN AQUA primer range
- FUTURA® AQUA primer

## Topcoats

- AQUATOP translucent or opaque range
- FUTURA® AQUA opaque
- HELO® AQUA translucent

## Ancillaries

- TEKNOSEAL 4040 v-joint sealer
- DRYWOOD KOPSE SEALER end grain sealer
- DRYWOOD OPTI-JOINT

Refer to product Technical Datasheets for information on coverage.





## HOW TO IMPROVE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF YOUR PAINTING PROJECT

**Selecting the right kind of paint** for each surface is essential and makes the painted surface last longer. If you want to reduce the environmental impact, go for waterborne products, ideally with ecolabels.

**Calculate the amount of paint** you need as accurately as you can to avoid leftover paint going to waste.

**Read the instructions** on the package and follow them. Refer to teknos.com for additional advice and always make sure to protect yourself and your environment.

**Painting equipment** should not be washed out in mains discharge sinks as this can cause harmful substances to end up in the water course, instead wash out in a container and take the waste water to a recycling centre. Recycle all waste generated, such as dry paints, paint pots, unwanted leftover wet paint and unusable painting equipment.

**We recommend using the leftover paint** for other painting projects or passing it on to others. The paint will keep well in its own pot if the pot is undamaged and the lid can be closed tightly. The paint can also be poured into another airtight and clean container. Only use clean painting equipment: the hygiene of the equipment also affects the shelf life of leftover paint. If you are storing the paint for the next use, you should not let it freeze.



## FIRST AND SUBSEQUENT REDECORATION

All areas to be re-coated should be cleaned down with a mild detergent solution and rinsed to remove dust, insects and other contaminants, which can form a base for algae and fungi growth. Follow this by lightly abrading with a fine grade abrasive paper then brush to remove dust.

If re-painting, only apply coatings to fresh wood or wood without coating damage. Using a good quality, synthetic brush, designed for use with acrylic paints, apply one or two coats of our opaque or translucent topcoat in the appropriate shade, colour and gloss level. Allow to dry between coats (refer to product datasheet for drying times).



## PROBLEM AREAS

If regular maintenance is delayed or some other damage has occurred, additional steps may be necessary to reinstate the finish to its initial condition. The notes below cover the most common problems, and further help is available from our customer service teams.

### Minor flaking

Where minor flaking affects small areas of the topcoat surface but the timber substrate is not exposed:

1. Clean down and wash the abraded area to remove dust, and allow to thoroughly dry.
2. Gently rub the damaged area with a fine grade abrasive paper to remove all unsound coating and feather out to leave a smooth surface.
3. Apply a coat of our opaque or translucent topcoat in the appropriate shade, colour and gloss level to the damaged area. Allow to dry between coats (refer to product datasheet for drying times).
4. If the damaged area is widespread, lightly abrade the complete frame, repair the damaged area as described above, apply the second coat to the complete frame.

## PROBLEM AREAS CONTINUED...

### Moisture penetration

Where moisture has penetrated joints, end grain, mitres or natural movement of the timber has opened shakes, treat as follows:

1. Clean down and wipe the abraded area with a damp microfibre cloth to remove dust, and allow to thoroughly dry.
2. Gently rub the damaged area with a fine grade abrasive paper to remove all unsound coating and feather out to leave a smooth surface.
3. Prime with the recommended primer or base stain.
4. Seal any open joints with the recommended sealer. Press into the joint with a gloved finger or a flexible spatula to give a smooth joint and allow to dry to a clear finish.
5. Seal any exposed end grain with the recommended end grain sealer and allow to thoroughly dry.
6. Apply a coat of our opaque or translucent topcoat in the appropriate shade, colour and gloss level. Allow to dry (refer to product datasheet for drying times) and then apply a second coat.

### Resin exudation

Resin occurs naturally in timber, in pockets within the wood or associated with knots. Some timber species are naturally more resinous than others, but the presence of resin is normally not detectable when joinery is manufactured.

Resin exudation often occurs on southern elevations and on darker coloured joinery where the sun's heat liquifies and mobilises the resin drawing it to the surface.

Treatment guidelines where resin has exuded through the coating:

- Although it may be unsightly, it is better not to remove fresh sticky resin. In practice, this can be very difficult, and its presence indicates that the exudation is still continuing. Remedial work is often best left until the first maintenance period, by which time the resin has normally fully crystallised.
- The best remedial treatment is to allow it to weather until it dries and oxidises, forming a white crystalline powder. The dried resin can then be removed with a stiff nylon or natural bristle brush, and any remaining residues washed off with a cloth.
- Waterbased coatings often allow the passage of resin to the surface without damaging the coating. If the finish is not damaged, by over-vigorous scrubbing during crystal removal, recoating is often unnecessary, but otherwise an overall application of a finish coat restores the general appearance of the timber and maintains its protection.





### APPLYING WATERBASED PAINTS

Waterborne paints require different brushing techniques (compared with solvent-borne paints), due to their faster drying and reduced flow. Following a few simple hints will produce excellent results.



**Brush quality:** the quality of the brush is very important. A long haired synthetic brush will give the best results; short haired or worn brushes may leave lines in the dry film. Thoroughly wet the brush with water before starting, ensuring the base of the bristles (the heel of the brush) is fully wetted.



**Paint flow:** Teknos topcoats can be applied directly from the tin, though additional thinning with up to 5% of water will improve the flow and levelling properties of the product, particularly in warm weather.

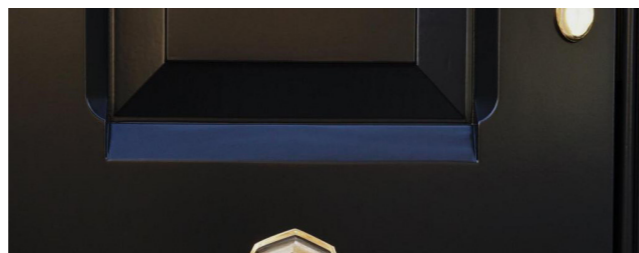


**A systematic approach:** when painting apply and finish each length section systematically. On a window, paint one component at a time e.g. top rail followed by the style and then the bottom rail. If painting a door start from the bottom and work your way upwards.



**Application:** An even coating film is important for durability and also for appearance, particularly in the case of translucent wood stain. With practice, an even coat can be applied quickly, following a three stage application technique:

1. Load the coating generously and disperse quickly over the surface.
2. Even out the coating with light diagonal cross strokes. Do not overbrush; the coating will flow and level naturally.
3. Finish with light brush strokes in the direction of the grain.



**Application of darker shades:** when applying darker opaque colours over previously applied lighter shades use a base coat of the final colour or one coat of a Teknos grey primer to aid opacity.



**Sanding:** Prior to sanding clean the surface, working from the bottom upwards. All surfaces to be coated must be abraded with a fine grade (180 or 220 grit) glass paper or flexible sanding pad, then brushed down to ensure they are free from dust.



**Temperature and humidity:** do not attempt to paint when the temperature is below 10° Celsius, or if the relative humidity exceeds 80%: the curing and performance of the coating may be impaired. Do not coat in direct sunlight.



**Substrate Condition:** Only coat on fresh wood or wood without defects such as cracks, resin exudation or blue staining. Where the previous substrate is unknown, apply the appropriate Teknos products to a small, inconspicuous area, allow to dry for 24 hours and then inspect for appearance and adhesion.



**Brush care:** wash out brushes with a mild detergent solution, such as washing up liquid, then rinse with clean water.



**Masking tape:** To achieve a sharp edge it is best to use the smoothest tape possible ie not creped or waved; for example 3M 'Long Mask™' is recommended for wood. For a good results follow these steps:

1. If painting with primer and topcoat, ensure that the primer is cured sufficiently, before using the tape.
2. On the topcoat, remove the tape before the topcoat is fully dried otherwise you risk tearing of the paint film.
3. Remove the tape. A good quality tape will not leave sticky marks on the surface.



Always refer to the Technical Datasheet for full instructions on how to use Teknos products.

For further support, contact your local Teknos coating expert or visit [tekno.com](http://tekno.com)