



# Timber treatment and long term maintenance

The majority of our garden buildings are delivered untreated (unless stated otherwise). It is essential to protect your garden building against the effects of wood boring insects (and other insects), against the effects of the sun, water and UV light as soon as possible.

## Wood is a natural material

Wood is a natural material and as such grows and adapts to the weather and climate it is subject to. This can in turn lead to large and small cracks, colour tone differences and changes, as well as a movement and a change in structure. It's important to know that these are not faults, but a result of wood growing and a peculiarity of wood as a natural material.

Untreated wood (except for foundation joists) become greyish after having been left untouched for a while, and can be turn blue and become mouldy. To protect the wooden components of your garden house, **you must immediately process them with a good quality wood preservative on all surfaces.**

## The treatment process

We recommend that you cover the floor boards in advance with a colourless wood impregnation agent, especially the under sides of the boards, to which you will no longer have access when the house is assembled. Only this will prevent moisture penetration.

We highly recommend that you also process the doors and windows with a wood impregnation agent, and do that both inside and outside! Otherwise the doors and windows can become twisted. Also if doors and window frames remain untreated or are treated with materials that differ on the inside to the outside, it is not uncommon for the wood to expand and contract such that the seal between the wooden parts and glass parts of your doors and windows can be broken and allow the ingress of water. We therefore recommend that door frames and window frames are treated frequently both inside and outside with a coloured timber preservative.

# Once the building is assembled

After the building assembly is completed, we recommend for the conclusive finishing a weather protection paint that will protect wood from moisture and UV radiation.

## **A coloured preservative (Recommended)**

In general coloured treatments also slow the movement of “free moisture” more effectively than clear treatments and therefore reduce (but don't eliminate) expansion and contraction of the wood therefore delivering a more stable building with less incidences of wood splitting and cracking etc.

**\*Please note\*** When painting, use high quality tools and paints, follow the paint application manual and manufacturer's safety and usage instructions. Never paint a surface in strong sunlight or rainy weather. Consult a specialist regarding paints suitable for machined softwood and follow the paint manufacturer's instructions.

It is always important to ALWAYS READ THE TIN. Following the guides stated on the manufacturers application process.

## **Oils and clear treatments (Not recommended)**

Oils, clear treatments (unless a coloured treatment is applied onto the clear treatment) and varnishes are not satisfactory treatments either inside or outside of garden buildings.