

VERTICAL CLADDING MAINTENANCE GUIDE

To keep your timber protected and looking its best, regular inspection and maintenance are essential. This typically involves a regular washing and visual inspection of the timber surface.

By inspecting the cladding at the time of the washing, you can identify areas that may require maintenance. Maintenance doesn't always mean recoating the entire building—often, only specific sections/facings will need attention, depending on the building's design, sun exposure, and weather conditions.

PREPARING YOUR TIMBER FOR A MAINTENANCE COAT

Prepare your timber by washing with CUTEK® Quickclean to remove surface contaminants such as dust, pollen, and grime in preparation for any required maintenance coating.

Following cleaning, **CUTEK® recommends applying one maintenance coat**. If maintenance has been delayed and the colour has faded significantly, **two coats may be necessary**.

However, it's important to **avoid overcoating areas that remain in good condition**—if the timber has not weathered significantly, additional coating can be unnecessary.

TIMING OF MAINTENANCE

The need for maintenance coats depends on several factors:

- Quality of the original application
- Timber type and grain
- Colour tone selected
- Building design and exposure to elements
- Orientation to the sun
- Local environmental conditions

Due to New Zealand's varied climate, **recoating may be required within two years**, especially for exposed areas. However, in more sheltered areas (e.g., under soffits), maintenance intervals may be extended. Typically, colour appears to last longer on rougher sawn timbers.

PARTIAL VS FULL RECOATING

It's not always necessary to recoat the entire surface. Areas that still appear visually sound and retain their protective qualities may not require immediate attention.

If the colour remains consistent and even, but you still wish to refresh the appearance, consider applying a maintenance coat using clear CUTEK® Extreme CD50 (without Colourtone).

NATURAL WEATHERING AND COLOUR CHANGES

CUTEK® Colourtones are designed to fade and weather gradually, rather than peeling or flaking. If fading occurs but the surface remains even and well protected, it's appropriate to recoat after preparation.

When using CUTEK® Extreme CD50 as a clear oil, the timber will naturally silver over time. Maintenance coats are still important, but **recoating every three years is generally sufficient** in these cases.