
TECHNICAL BULLETIN

End Sealing

The process of end sealing begins in the forest. When the trees are felled, the log ends receive an application of paraffin or other aqueous wax solution. This process slows the release of moisture from the logs, preventing degradation and splitting.



The boards receive a new coat of end sealer after each cutting to length as the wood goes down the production stream to your deck, from log to sawn lumber to finished deck board. This process should continue when boards are cut at your job site during installation to reduce end checking. End sealing is the **best practice** for air-dried or kiln-dried decking or cladding. You can typically expect to seal between 200 and 300 board ends per quart.

Note: It is not uncommon for the boards coming from the mill to have some overspray or overflow of end sealer on the board faces. Typically, this is trimmed off during installation, and a job site coat can be more carefully applied. If you intend to let your deck weather naturally and are patient, the end sealer will ultimately dissipate over time. If you want to remove the end sealer overspray, we recommend using hot soapy water. We have heard that degreasers may work as well. When working with finishes or solvents, we recommend that you follow the manufacturer's instructions and test an area out of sight before moving on to visible areas.