

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

End Sealing

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



As the boards move down the production stream, from log to sawn lumber to finished deck board, they receive a fresh coat of end sealer after each cutting to length. This practice should continue at your job site during installation to reduce end checking. End sealing is recommended for air-dried or kiln-dried decking or cladding. Typically, you can seal between 200 and 300 board ends per quart. Note: It is not uncommon for boards from the mill to have some overspray or overflow of end sealer on their faces. This is usually trimmed off during installation, and a more careful application can be done on-site. If you intend to let your deck weather naturally and are patient, the end sealer will eventually dissipate over time. To remove the end sealer overspray, we recommend using hot soapy water. Degreasers may also work. When working with finishes or solvents, follow the manufacturer's instructions and test an area out of sight before moving on to visible areas.