

# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## Painting Naturally Durable Hardwoods

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Painting naturally durable hardwoods can be challenging. If painting is necessary, latex-based formulas that allow the wood to breathe have been found to be most successful. Limited success has been achieved using an oil-based galvanizer metal primer followed by high-quality acrylic latex paint.

Before painting, ensure the wood is acclimated and dry. Clean the surface with a fast-drying solvent such as alcohol or acetone to remove surface oils and lapachol powders that could interfere with adhesion. Use an oil-based galvanizer metal primer like “Zinzer 1,2,3 Primer” or “XIM Bonder,” and then apply two coats of a high-quality 100% acrylic latex paint.

Wood is an organic material with inherent variations from board to board, which can impact the final appearance. Architects, engineers, and designers should consider how the acclimation process may affect the painted wood. It is recommended to create and test samples from different boards before proceeding with the full application. Always follow the manufacturer’s recommendations when using proprietary products.