



# CHARTEK

## MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

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**PRODUCT NAME** CHARTEK Charred Finish (Shou Sugi Ban)

**PRODUCT DESCRIPTION** Timber weatherboard with show faces finished with a wood preserving technique, created by charring with fire.

**PURPOSE AND USE** Suitable for internal or external cladding of any residential, commercial or industrial building where timber cladding systems are utilised.

## VISUAL INSPECTIONS

The appearance of this product through its life will be dependent on the degree of maintenance. Time can be allowed to age the timber naturally, otherwise known as patina or these effects can be significantly slowed with a pragmatic maintenance schedule.

### Preserving the char

Some people decide they want the product to remain looking like it did when new. Chartek has developed a method to slow the effects of aging by applying a hardening oil which is absorbed through the depth of the char and into the timber. This is a natural oil which sets hard, locking it all together. A natural charcoal stain can be included in this oil to refresh any fading of the charcoal over time.



**New Charred**



**Old, but preserved**

### Patina

This product can be charred, installed on a house and left to age naturally (patina). In this condition it will change and evolve over time. It will fade, pockmark and the charcoal lugs will eventually fall off leaving a mellow chocolate hue. In conditions with high UV light, this will continue to fade and bleach. Some people celebrate this patina and embrace the changing colours and imperfections which come with the age of this product. This earthy, organic effect creates a beautiful juxtaposition with clean, precise modern materials like glass and steel.



**Old Patina**



**Very Old Patina**

## **MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES**

All timber species used in approved cladding systems are required to be adequately durable in their own right. In this context, the charred surface is not necessary for compliance with the New Zealand Building code, but does increase the durability of any timber species it is applied to.

This durability is characterised by decreased moisture sorption, increased dimensional stability and resistance to biological degradation. Due to these characteristics, charred timber requires less maintenance when compared with standard timber.

In some conditions, charred timber will be maintenance free. However, maintenance requirements will vary depending on the environmental conditions at unique installations and depending on the visual expectations each customer has for their product;

- Cladding in North facing, or aspects exposed to heavy weather will be expected to age and deteriorate quicker than timber located in other aspects.
- Cladding in environments with high salt content (near the ocean) will be expected to age and deteriorate quicker than timber located in other environments.
- Cladding in especially humid or wet environments may develop mould growth.

A maintenance assessment should be made every five years or as necessary:

### **MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN WEATHER TIGHTNESS**

Maintenance instructions from approved timber cladding system suppliers should be followed. Expected requirements would be as follows:

Check all weatherboards, junctions, flashings, mouldings and replace or re-mediate as required to maintain weather tightness of the cladding system.

Annual sealing (touch up with Mainland Charring Stain) on exposed ends to minimise or cover surface splits or checks that may develop, especially when used on exposed external applications.

### **MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN CHARRED SURFACE APPEARANCE**

Apply 1 or 2 coats of Mainland Charring Stain when charcoal becomes friable to further lock in the charred lugs and slow the deterioration of the charred surface. The regularity of re-coating will depend on the aspect of timber to the weather and the environment of installation. Refer to Mainland Charring Stain (developed specifically for Chartek SSB) product information sheet for application instructions.

### **CLEANING**

Rinse the timber with low pressure water to remove dust. If required, clean the external weatherboards with a soft, lint free cloth and a neutral pH soap to remove any pollutants.

### **MOULD**

Mainland Charring Stain includes selected mould inhibitors. If no mould spores are present in the timber, this will likely inhibit any mould growth for up to 10 years.

If a light mould or discolouration presents itself, use a timber rejuvenator or timber cleaner and a soft lint free rag, rinse with water. Apply 1 or 2 coats of Mainland Charring Stain as appropriate on dry timber.

If heavy or persistent mould presents itself, use a sodium hypochlorite based cleaner such as Resene Moss and Mould, apply with a soft lint free cloth, leave for 10 minutes then rinse thoroughly with water. Wait until timber is dry then spray on a mouldicide such as Resene Deep Clean or similar. Apply 1 or 2 coats of Mainland Charring Stain as appropriate on dry timber.