

Internal Wood Stabilizer

Application suggestions

IWS is a thin, water-like product. Every accessible surface of the wood should be thoroughly coated. The end-grain of boards is particularly absorbent, so it's important to apply IWS liberally to cut ends to ensure that the entire board is waterproofed. Ideally, this should be done before your project is built.

Preparation of the wood: Wood should be clean before being treated, and should be checked for **mill glaze**. Mill glaze can occur during the milling process. Rapidly spinning saw blades, heated by friction, can compress wood fibers and slightly polish the wood, creating a temporary seal that blocks absorption. If there's a visible sheen to the wood, test for mill glaze by sprinkling the wood with water. If the water darkens the wood, it is ready to accept IWS. If the water sits on the surface of the wood for several minutes, this indicates the presence of mill glaze. Sand the boards with 60- or 80-grit sandpaper to lightly rough up the wood fibers. This will allow the IWS to penetrate properly.

Tools: You can apply IWS by any number of tools. IWS is very sensitive to chemicals, so your tool of choice must be clean and uncontaminated by any previous product. For small projects, we recommend spraying it on the boards with a small spray bottle (the type used to mist plants); use a deck sprayer for larger projects. You can also use a paint pad, or a clean paintbrush. **We recommend that you pour out some IWS into a smaller container if you use brush or pad, rather than keep dipping back into original bucket because the IWS can start to discolor and thicken due to the brush insinuating alkalinity from the wood back into the IWS causing the desired reaction (which you want on the wood, not in the bucket!).** Apply liberally, but don't oversaturate. If it should puddle, smooth it out. 2 coats are recommended, especially on inside of garden bed boxes, or any part of the wood likely to be exposed to water or soil. Slight darkening of the wood may occur. Redwood is particularly susceptible to significant (but temporary) darkening when treated with IWS. This darkening will lighten up, or it can be washed off with a citric acid rinse.

Future Maintenance: IWS forms silica crystals within the wood pores that remain permanently imbedded; however, if cracks and checks open up as the wood seasons and dries, it is suggested to spray IWS as deep into the cracks as possible to seal the walls of the cracks.

Limitations: IWS can only be applied to raw, bare, untreated wood. It cannot be used on plywood or pressure-treated wood. The waterproofing action begins quickly upon application, but we recommend letting boards dry and set up for a few days prior to exposing them to water and the elements. Penetrating stains will not perform well over the top of IWS, because it waterproofs so well that it prevents conventional sealers from penetrating. Boards **can** be stained on one side and treated with IWS on the other – however, care must be taken to let one product to dry before the other is applied, and the margins **MUST NOT OVERLAP**. Significant darkening of the stain will occur if they do. **Contact us for details.** Surfaces treated with IWS can be **painted** 30 days after initial IWS application.

Warning: IWS can etch glass, so make sure you protect any window or glass surface nearby.

IWS has zero VOCs, but since it looks like water (and is not drinkable,) we recommend storing it in the original container.

Questions? Call Timber Pro Coatings – 888.888.6095 www.timberprocoatingsusa.com