



Wood Treatments

Thank you for choosing a garden shed from Simply Log Cabins. Please see below some notes and information on the two main types of treatment used in wooden garden sheds and summer houses (not log cabins, which are supplied untreated) supplied by the following manufacturers: Al Garden Buildings, Mercia, Shire, Forest Garden, Rowlinson and Speedy Sheds.

Garden Sheds (Factory Applied Dip Treatments):

When a garden shed undergoes a “factory-applied dip treatment,” process it typically refers to a preservative treatment applied to the wood of the shed in a factory setting. This treatment helps protect the wood in the short term from various environmental factors, such as moisture, insects, and decay. The dip treatment process involves immersing the wood components of the shed into a preservative solution, ensuring that the treatment reaches all surfaces and provides thorough protection.

Here are some key points regarding factory-applied dip treatment for garden sheds:

Preservative Treatment:

The dip treatment often involves the application of wood preservatives that help to reduce decay and wood rot caused by fungi and deter insects that can damage the wood.

Protection Against Moisture:

The treatment helps protect the wood from moisture, reducing the risk of warping, swelling, and rotting. This is particularly important for outdoor structures like garden sheds that are exposed to varying weather conditions.

Uniform Coverage:

The immersion process ensures that all surfaces of the wood, including joints and crevices, receive a uniform coating of the preservative, providing comprehensive protection. Note, owing to the fact that wood is a natural material with a varying density, treatments may be more readily absorbed in certain parts of the wood and therefore the wood may not look as though it is evenly treated but please be assured that it is.

Ease of Maintenance:

Factory-applied dip treatments can reduce the maintenance requirements for the end user in the first few weeks. However, periodic inspections and potential reapplications of protective coatings will be necessary within the first few weeks of delivery and over the shed’s lifespan, depending on factors such as exposure to weather and sunlight.

Please note:

Dip treatments should be viewed a shorter term, temporary treatment and the wood be re-treated with a branded quality timber preservative as soon as reasonably possible.

Dip treated wood will vary in colour owing to the varying porosity of the wood being treated. Some wood absorbs treatment more readily than others almost to the point where the wood can appear to be untreated. Please be assured that it has been treated as the whole package has been immersed in a large bath of timber treatment.

Garden Sheds (Pressure Treated):

When a garden shed is described as “pressure-treated,” it means that the wood used in the construction of the shed has undergone a process called pressure treatment. This treatment involves impregnating the wood with preservatives under high pressure to enhance its resistance to decay, insects, and other environmental factors. Pressure-treated wood is commonly used for outdoor structures, including garden sheds, to increase their durability and lifespan. Here are some key points about pressure-treated garden sheds

Preservative Treatment:

Pressure-treated wood is infused with chemical preservatives that helps to protect it from decay, rot, and insect damage in the longer term.

Pressure Treatment Process:

The wood is placed in a pressure chamber, it is then put under a strong vacuum for a period of time such that the body of the wood itself has the air drawn from it and whilst the wood itself is still re-absorbing air, preservatives are then forced into the body of the wood fibres under high pressure. This ensures deep penetration of the preservatives deeper into the core of the wood than would a simple dip treatment and thus providing a more comprehensive level of protection.

Resistance to Decay and Insects:

Pressure-treated wood is resistant to fungi and most wood-boring insects. This makes it well-suited for outdoor applications where the wood is exposed to moisture and the risk of mould and insect infestation is high.

Enhanced Lifespan:

The pressure treatment process significantly extends the lifespan of the wood, making it more durable and capable of withstanding the rigors of outdoor conditions. This is especially beneficial for garden sheds that are constantly exposed to rain, humidity, and soil.

Variety of Wood Types:

Various types of wood can undergo pressure treatment, including pine, spruce, and fir. The choice of wood species can affect the appearance and cost of the shed.

Maintenance Considerations:

While pressure-treated wood requires less maintenance compared to untreated wood, periodic inspections and potential reapplications of protective coatings are still recommended to ensure the continued effectiveness of the treatment.

Please note:

Pressure treated wood can be rather more prone to the appearance of splits and cracks in the wood, especially in the spring and summer months of its first year, until the wood goes through its process of regularisation within its natural environment.

Pressure treating wood will cause the wood to expand. As the moisture part of the pressure treatment slowly dries from the wood and the wood slowly contracts this can result in some of the solid components of the treatment being forced to the surface of the wood and giving the appearance of a greenish / blue mould. Please be assured that this is not a mould and is not detrimental to the wood itself. If it is unsightly, please simply wipe off with a damp cloth.

Pressure treated wood may still be damp when delivered especially in the spring and summer.

There is often colour variations in pressure treated wood, even in the same plank of wood owing to the varying porosity of the wood itself.

It's important to note that pressure-treated wood may have a greenish or browner tint initially due to the preservatives used, but this colour typically weathers over time. Always follow the manufacturer's guidelines for care and maintenance to maximise the longevity of your pressure-treated garden shed. All timber treatments are chemicals. Please refer to the manufacturer's assembly information regarding any safety precautions that may be necessary when handling the wood.