



**Bear Creek Lumber, Inc.**

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## Unpacking Instructions For Your Lumber

### **Inspecting the Load**

You should inspect your load for any shipping damage as soon as it arrives. This will probably involve removing the wrap from your lumber package briefly. Immediately note any shipping damage on your bill of lading and report to the shipping agent of the delivery company.

We do advise that after inspection, you put the lumber wrap back on your lumber if you are going to store it outdoors. Wood is more prone to warping and discoloration if it is exposed to direct sun and other weather.

### **Storage**

Lumber should never be stored on the ground. It should always be covered with lumber wrap. Always keep lumber on dunnage so that air can circulate under the pile. Avoid moving lumber when it is raining. Interior products such as paneling should be stored inside, and allowed to acclimatize. Ideally you should sticker (shown to the right) the wood in the room it will be installed in, and allow the wood acclimatize for at least one week before application.



### **Returns**

We ship the lumber specified in your purchase agreement in good faith that you will accept it. On rare occasions, a customer may change their mind about the product. In that case, the customer is fully responsible for any charges incurred for the return of the product (freight charges both to jobsite and returning to Bear Creek Lumber) and a 15% restock fee. Bear Creek Lumber makes every effort to resolve product issues but it is ultimately the customer who is responsible for the product they chose.

### **Installation**

Priming or pre-finishing is recommended by the wood products industry because pre-finished lumber is less likely to shrink or swell after it has been nailed up. Be sure the pre-finish is compatible with the final coat prior to application. For example, clear water repellents should not be used if a bleaching finish is planned for the final coat.

Use building paper under all types of natural wood siding. Building paper is a water barrier rather than a moisture vapor barrier. It is recommended to prevent water from entering the wall cavity (an appropriate vapor barrier should be used on the warm siding of insulation to reduce moisture movement from inside). Never build with wet building paper or siding products. Allow everything to dry before application.

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## **Unpacking Instructions For Your Lumber ~ continued...**

### **Stainless Steel Nails**

It has been determined that non-corrosive stainless steel nails are the best for exterior use or for high moisture interior uses. Bear Creek Lumber recommends these types of nails. Other types of nails can rust and disintegrate and react adversely with the natural preservative oils present in cedar resulting in stains and streaks.

### **Finishing**

Preparation is the key to achieving an attractive and long lasting finish. Dry and clean all surfaces and protect against potential moisture problems. Each type of wood product responds differently so, for best results, consult your local paint and stain distributor for more complete information about the product you are interested in.

#### **Exterior Finishes:**

**Stain:** Semi-transparent and heavy-bodied stains are easy to apply, inexpensive and available in wide variety of colors. The wood's natural texture and grain are enhanced by semi-transparent applications. Use heavier bodied stain when grain and characteristic markings are not visually desired.

**Paint:** Always pre-finish wood before using paint. Some species have a tendency to bleed through paint because of their resinous nature. Pre-finishing will prevent this. Blister resistant paint is recommended.

**Bleaches:** When using Western Red Cedar, a "natural weathered look" can be achieved with the application of a bleaching agent. Generally one coat will be sufficient. The color change in the wood is permanent.

**Water Repellents:** Two applications prior to nailing is recommended. A third coat should be applied after the siding or deck is finished.

#### **Interior Finishes:**

While most of the same finish application can be used for both interior and exterior lumber products, it is very important to remember that seasoning (thorough drying) and pre-finishing of paneling is of utmost importance. While Cedar and Redwood do not necessarily need to be finished (because of their natural resistance to decay and insects), some sort of sealing agent is recommended for future ease of cleaning.

On new construction, any plaster work should be dry before delivery of your lumber materials. Being subject to moisture penetration, masonry and concrete walls should be water-proofed before the application of wood paneling.

**If you have any questions, please contact your Bear Creek Lumber sales representative.**

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