



SOUTHERN YELLOW PINE TIMBER TREATMENT INFORMATION

The preservative treatment applied to Southern Yellow Pine timber produced in the USA has recently changed from a CCA treatment to the environmentally advanced copper based , non-arsenic and non-chromium MCA preservative system.

When Southern Yellow Pine is treated, it is first kiln dried, then pressure treated, then kiln dried again. This allows for greater retention and fixing of the preservative agent, as well as greater stability within the timber itself.

After the pressure treatment procedure, the timber is allowed to 'drip dry' outdoors prior to the second kiln drying procedure. Boards are stacked with 'spacers' in between to allow for free air circulation. The wet MCA treatment causes the timber to darken slightly when exposed to UV rays, and when light levels are high, lighter 'stick marks' appear on the timber surface where the 'spacers' were positioned. The second kiln drying procedure fixes the MCA treatment within the timber and has the effect of slowing any reaction with UV rays right down.

When the deck boards are laid, some 'stick marks' may be visible at first. However, the timber tones will even out as they receive outdoor exposure over a period of time. The higher the light levels, the more quickly the tones will blend. 'Stick marks' pose no threat to the safety and integrity of your deck. Any heavy stick marks can be sanded off easily during the deck construction.

This same process of drip drying prior to kiln drying may also lead to some green residue , which is in fact copper solution , being deposited on the surface of the timber. This will diminish and disappear in time with weathering and again UV exposure or can be removed by sanding or a pressure wash ., ideally with a patio cleaning rotating head to avoid score marks to the timber.

If you have any further questions with regards to the Southern Yellow Pine please get in touch with us.
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