

## *Fastener information*

NatureWood preserved wood products are designed for long-term performance in outdoor applications and, therefore, require high quality, corrosionresistant nails, screws, and hardware. Use hot-dip galvanized (conforming to ASTM Standards: ASTM-A153 for hot-dip fasteners and ASTM-A653, Coating Designation G-185 for hot-dip connectors and sheet products), stainless steel, or other fasteners and hardware as recommended by the hardware manufacturer. Direct contact of NatureWood preserved wood with aluminum fasteners is not recommended.



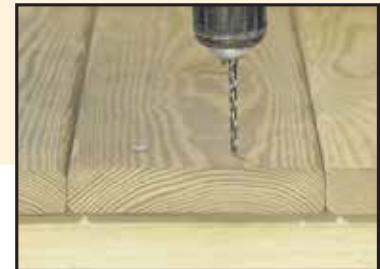
## *When appearance permits, attach boards bark side up.*

As a general rule, attach boards bark side up (annual rings arc upward) to reduce cupping; however, the best face should be placed up when a defect of the wood is apparent. Fasten thin boards to thicker boards to maintain structural integrity.



## *Drill pilot holes*

Drill pilot holes, especially when nailing or screwing near the edge or end of a board. Pilot holes will help minimize splitting.



## *Deck board spacing*

During construction, should the wood become wet, butt deck boards together. As drying occurs, some shrinkage can be expected. If the wood is dry, allowing for shrinkage is not necessary.



## *Apply a weather-resistant finish*

Any exposed wood, pressure treated or not, should be protected with a high quality water repellent finish or stain with water repellent to help reduce warping, checking, and splitting. Application of a quality clear water repellent or semitransparent stain, which contains water repellent, will help minimize the cycles of moisture take-up and loss the wood goes through outdoors. First, determine if your NatureWood product has been pressure treated with a factory applied water repellent by looking at the end tag. If not factory water repellent treated, thoroughly clean your project with a deck cleaning product. Clear water repellent can be immediately applied to your deck or other project. If you choose to use a semitransparent stain which contains a water repellent, you need to first check that your project is surface dry. Either wait until the surface is dry or immediately apply clear water repellent and wait approximately 8 weeks and then apply your chosen color of semitransparent stain. Water repellent should be reapplied every 12 to 18 months, stains - every 24 to 36 months.



**For more information call 800-585-5161, or visit [www.kopperspc.com](http://www.kopperspc.com).**

## IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

### Fasteners

NatureWood products are designed for long term performance in outdoor applications and, therefore, require high quality corrosion-resistant nails, screws, and other fasteners and hardware. Fasteners (and other metal products) for use with NatureWood preserved wood products include:

**For Interior and Exterior Applications** - use fasteners and hardware that are in compliance with the manufacturer's recommendations and the building codes for their intended use. As with any good design and construction practices, NatureWood treated wood should not be used in applications where trapped moisture or water can occur. Where design and/or actual conditions allow for constant, repetitive, or long periods of wet conditions, only stainless steel fasteners should be used.

**Hot-Dip Galvanized\*\*** - Fastener and hardware manufacturers have suggested the minimum Hot Dip Galvanized requirements for use with treated wood should conform to the following ASTM Standards: ASTM-A153 (for Hot-Dip fastener products) and ASTM- A 653 (Coating Designation G-185 for Hot-Dip connector and sheet products).

**Stainless Steel** - Stainless steel fasteners and connectors are required for Permanent Wood Foundations below grade and are recommended for use with treated wood in other severe exterior applications such as swimming pools, salt water exposure, etc. Type 304 and 316 are the recommended grades to use.

**Other fasteners and hardware as recommended by the manufacturer** - There may be additional products (other than stainless steel or hot-dip galvanized) which are suitable for use with NatureWood treated wood. Please consult with the individual fastener or hardware manufacturer for recommendations for use of their products with NatureWood treated wood.

**Aluminum should not be used in direct contact with NatureWood treated wood** - Spacer materials or other physical barriers are recommended to prevent direct contact of NatureWood treated wood and aluminum products. When using NatureWood preserved wood in close proximity to aluminum products, such as aluminum siding, flashing, furniture and door and window frames, a 1/4" minimum space must be allowed for between the NatureWood and the aluminum products. Polyethylene or nylon spacers can be used to maintain the 1/4" spacing. Another option is to use a polyethylene barrier, with a minimum thickness of 10 mils, between the NatureWood preserved wood and the aluminum product to prevent direct contact of the wood and the aluminum.

### When appearance permits, attach boards bark side up.

As a general rule, attach boards bark side up (annual rings are upward) to reduce cupping; however, the best face should be placed up when a defect of the wood is apparent. Fasten thin boards to thicker boards to maintain structural integrity.

### Drill pilot holes

Drill pilot holes especially when nailing or screwing near the edge or end of a board. Pilot holes will help minimize splitting.

### Deck board spacing

Should the wood become wet during construction, butt deck boards together. As drying occurs, some shrinkage can be expected. If the wood is dry, allowing for shrinkage is not necessary.

### Use an endcoat preservative

Brush-on endcoat wood preservative is recommended on all saw cuts and into drill holes during construction of wood projects. Also apply on areas where moisture can collect. Follow manufacturer's recommendations.

### Apply a weather-resistant finish

Any exposed wood, pressure treated or not, should be protected from the weather. Application of a quality clear water repellent or semi-transparent stain, which contains water repellent, will help minimize the cycles of moisture take-up and loss the wood goes through outdoors. First, determine if your NatureWood product has been pressure treated with a factory applied water repellent by looking at the

end tag. If not factory water repellent treated, thoroughly clean your project with a deck cleaning product. Clear water repellent can be immediately applied to your deck or other project. If you choose to use a semi-transparent stain which contains a water repellent, you need to first check that your project is surface dry. Either wait until the surface is dry or immediately apply clear water repellent and wait approximately 8 weeks and then apply your chosen color of semi transparent stain.

If the NatureWood products contain a factory water repellent, an oil based stain can be applied in 30 - 60 days and water based stains can be applied after 6 months. Check that the wood is surface dry before applying stain. In all instances follow the manufacturer's directions when applying water repellents or semi-transparent stains which may contain water repellent.

*\*\* Electroplated galvanized fastener and metal products are typically not accepted by the building codes for use in exterior applications, regardless of the type of wood used.*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Do not burn preserved wood.
- Wear a dust mask and goggles when cutting or sanding wood.
- Wear gloves when working with wood.
- Some preservative may migrate from the treated wood into soil/water or may dislodge from the treated wood surface upon contact with skin. Wash exposed skin areas thoroughly.
- All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing before reuse.
- Preserved wood should not be used where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as fresh water docks and bridges.
- Do not use preserved wood under circumstances where the preservative may become a component of food, animal feed, or beehives.
- Do not use preserved wood as mulch.
- Only preserved wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used.
- If the wood is to be used in an interior application and becomes wet during construction, it should be allowed to dry before being covered or enclosed.
- Disposal Recommendations - Preserved wood may be disposed of in landfills or burned in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations.
- If you desire to apply a paint, stain, clear water repellent, or other finish to your preservative treated wood, we recommend following the manufacturer's instructions and label of the finishing product. Before you start, we recommend you apply the finishing product to a small exposed test area before completing the entire project to insure it provides the intended result before proceeding.
- Projects should be designed and installed in accordance with federal, state, and local building codes and ordinances governing construction in your area and in accordance with the National Design Specifications (NDS) and the Wood Handbook.
- Mold growth can and does occur on the surface of many products, including untreated and treated wood, during prolonged surface exposure to excessive moisture conditions. To remove mold from the treated wood surface, wood should be allowed to dry. Typically, mild soap and water can be used to remove remaining surface mold. For more information visit [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

The NatureWood preservative systems, as described in the ICC - ES Report, meet all major model building code requirements.

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