

Proper maintenance for treated Cedar

Maintenance and care:

Now that you have the Cascadia pergola for you have always dreamed about. You'll be happy to see how easy it is to keep it looking it best for years to come. You have taken the first step, by purchasing the highest-quality pergola available. Although our pergola has been built to last for many years, there is no way to stop elements of natural weathering on exterior wood products. However, by following our simple maintenance instructions you can maintain the beauty of your pergola.

Cedar:

Our cedar pergolas are made with 100% top grade cedar, a durable, superior-quality wood, which possesses natural oils that give it resistance to insects and decay. You can preserve the radiance of the wood and protect it from the effects of the weather, by applying a water-repellent sealer. We recommend a Cabot stain and sealer because the Cabot line of products are richly pigmented, deep penetrating linseed oil-base stain that provides long lasting beauty and protection.

If you wish to maintain the natural color of the cedar you may apply sealer as soon as your pergola is assembled. For a more rustic look, you can wait until it had naturally weathered, and then use a water-repellent clear sealer that is recommended for use on cedar. Applications should be made every two-for years, depending on climate exposure to sun, etc. since these treatments are available under several brand names, you should ask a local lumber dealer to recommend the right one for your pergola. Even after applying an exterior wood sealer to pergola, discoloration will occur over time. Usually dirt is the most common cause of discoloration and can easily be removed with a mild detergent and a brush. Water stains can also occur but can be remove by cleaning. In extreme cases, light sanding followed by touch-up stain and sealer may be required. Hardware to deter rusting. A light coat every six months is recommended. How much exterior finish will be required average, plan on using 1 gallon or less of exterior finish to completely coat your pergola.

Snowy Area:

If you live in an area subject to large snowfall, please remove lattice panels on the rood in the winter so the snow will not build up. Any prolonged weight on the rood will adversely affect the longevity of the structure. Winter storage of lattice also prolongs the finish.

Cleaning Instructions:

- Never use a pressure washer, since the pressure needed to lift the top surface layer and accompanying stain may gouge the surface, making it difficult to recoat.
- A solution of mild detergent and warm water will remove most dirt without affecting the coating.

To help your pergola look its best, use these cleaning techniques between maintenance coatings.