

## Applying Stain to Wood Pressure Treated with Oil-borne Copper Naphthenate (CuNap) or Pentachlorophenol (penta)

The following is based on comments provided by a reputable third party wood scientist. They are not the recommendations of Wheeler Lumber, LLC. Wheeler has little experience with the application of stains and/or paints to pressure treated wood and makes no recommendation on stain/paint types, brands or application. Please review all labels or check with the stain/paint manufacturer before using. Wheeler is not responsible for the final appearance of any wood in which stain/paint is applied.

### CuNap:

Most non-film forming stains that are oil based or alkyd should work over CuNap treated wood. The wood surface should be wiped with mineral spirits (MS) and allowed to dry prior to stain application. The MS wipe takes off the solvent left over on the surface from treating or if there has been a temperature change that causes the solvent to "bleed out" of the wood surface. Plywood may exhibit more surface oil due to the outer ply (before the first glue line) being treated heaviest.

The treated wood may be stained with 1 or 2% CuNap solution in mineral spirits. The solution is made with conc + rule 66 odorless MS. To make a deep brown tinted solution add about 3 ounces each of burnt umber and red iron oxide (found at most paint stores) per gallon of RTU solution. This can be brushed over the top of the treated wood.

### Penta:

The application is similar to CuNap, however some penta treated wood is acidic enough that iron pigments can form iron tannates on the wood surface. This will result in a purple piece of wood. To identify this possibility, test a few locations that are not obvious to the public. The color will usually develop in 1-2 weeks if it going to change purple.

For wood treated with water-repellant penta (penta that contains a wax water repellent), a small amount of MEK (methyl ethyl ketone, available from hardware stores) dissolved in the MS appears to work better than MS by itself.