

## Overview

This standard covers the skills and knowledge required to prepare for the application of a preservative or fire-retardant treatment to wood. To do this, you will need to identify the appropriate treatment and ensure sufficient stocks of treatment chemicals to complete the job, select the appropriate quantity and type of wood, and prepare wood for the application of wood treatments.

This applies to anyone involved with wood treatment and preservation.

## Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

1. comply with health and safety requirements and procedures at all times
2. obtain specifications and requirements of the items to be produced following standard operating procedures
3. obtain equipment and materials required following standard operating procedures
4. check equipment is set up correctly and in good working order following standard operating procedures and any manufacturer's instructions
5. check materials required meet specifications and are free from faults following standard operating procedures
6. identify how wood treatment will affect the characteristics and properties of wood following standard operating procedures
7. select treatments of appropriate type and concentration to meet specifications
8. maintain treatment chemical stock levels following standard operating procedures
9. select quantity of appropriate species of wood to meet specifications
10. check moisture content of wood following standard operating procedures
11. check wood is ready for treatment, identifying and rectifying any problems within the limits of your responsibility
12. check solution strength of wood treatment chemicals meet specifications
13. identify, trace and record wood treatment activity following standard operating procedures
14. report any problems outside the limits of your responsibility to appropriate people following standard operating procedures
15. complete work within allocated time following standard operating procedures and programme of work

## Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

1. relevant health and safety responsibilities
2. meaning of terms used in specifications
3. how to check equipment is set up and is in good working order
4. how to check materials and common faults that occur
5. species of wood in commercial use, their appearance, individual characteristics, properties and typical end uses
6. differences between softwood and hardwood and the impact this has on wood products used
7. what is meant by durability; natural durability and conferred durability
8. durability classifications and typical end use applications and service life expectations
9. how to obtain and interpret work instructions and programmes of work
10. ways to improve wood's ability to resist weathering, decay or insect attack and durability or performance
11. how to protect wood from uptake of moisture, staining, distortion, deterioration or other degrade
12. types of treatment available relevant to your work, level of protection they provide and when they are appropriate to use
13. performance and natural resistance of different woods to fire
14. tests used to assess solution strength of wood treatment chemicals
15. treatment chemical stock levels and replenishment procedures
16. effect moisture content has on treatments being applied and how drying wood may affect this
17. recommended moisture content for wood for its intended use
18. how to measure moisture content of wood
19. where to get up to date information on regulations, industry standards and company guidance in relation to wood treatment
20. standards you need to comply with and their requirements
21. personal protective equipment required during the treatment process
22. application processes for different types of wood treatment
23. suitability of different application processes for treating different types of wood
24. effects of wood treatments and exterior coatings on wood

- structure, properties, durability and appearance
25. how to protect work area from damage
  26. manufacturers' technical information, statutory regulations and official guidance for dealing with spillages
  27. equipment associated with preparing wood for treatment and how to use it
  28. limits of your responsibility in relation to rectifying problems or faults
  29. who to report problems outside the limits of your responsibility to and appropriate ways to do so
  30. environmental responsibilities in relation to wood treatment preparation

## Prepare to treat wood

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<b>Developed by</b>	NSAFD
<b>Version Number</b>	2
<b>Date Approved</b>	January 2019
<b>Indicative Review Date</b>	January 2023
<b>Validity</b>	Current
<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating Organisation</b>	Proskills
<b>Original URN</b>	PROWPT1
<b>Relevant Occupations</b>	Furniture Makers and Other Craft Woodworkers
<b>Suite</b>	Wood Treatment and Preservation
<b>Keywords</b>	Treating wood

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