

# Maintenance Guide of Charred wood

## General

Despite meticulous industrial coating using top-quality products

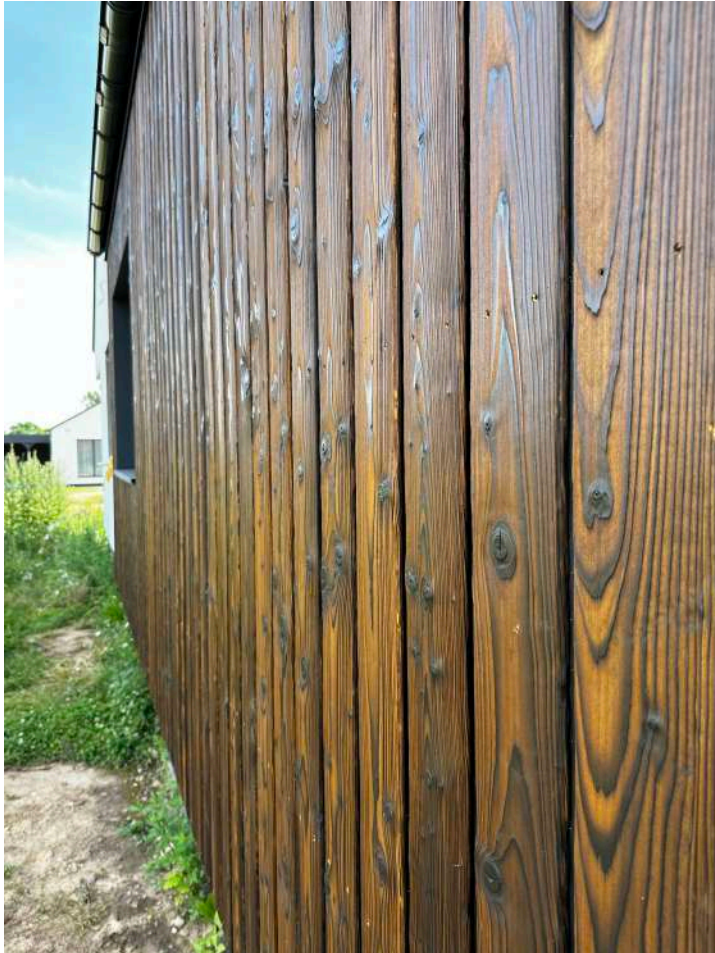


Image 1. Charred wood

and considering the load the surface may endure, it remains crucial to conduct regular inspections and perform maintenance coatings. This practice is essential to ensure the functionality, protection, and appearance of the coated surface. The maintenance interval for exteriors varies depending on several factors, including the type of cladding, the material, the facade's design, colour choice, wood finish or treatment,

local climate, the surface's orientation, and the exposure to wind, rain, and sunlight. As a result, the maintenance period can range anywhere from 5 to 10 years. Each facade, dealing with distinct weather conditions, necessitates individual treatment for optimal outcomes.

## Yearly examination:

Charred wood cladding possesses various natural characteristics that vary based on the exposure environment and could lead to minor imperfections in the coating. It is advisable to inspect the coated boards at least once a year for any signs of surface damage, splitting, coating deterioration, or timber discolouration beneath the coating, which could indicate moisture penetration. Additionally, checking and cleaning the guttering and downpipes is essential. Leaks should be repaired promptly to prevent excessive wetting of the cladding in localised areas.

In case of minor coating damage, shakes, or open joints, spot repairs should be conducted. However, it's important to note that repaired areas may appear more glossy, so to maintain colour consistency, the entire board or wall section can be recoated.

If regular maintenance is delayed or if other damages have occurred, further steps might be necessary to restore the cladding to its original condition.



Image 2. Brushed charred wood cladding

It's crucial to adopt a preventive approach to maintenance rather than a reactive one to ensure continuous protection of the cladding, extend its lifespan, and keep lifetime maintenance costs low.

## Maintenance plan

Clean the surfaces if necessary (refrain from utilising pressure washers, as they have the potential to cause damage to the

coating), carefully inspect for any signs of damage. If damage is detected, follow these steps:

In cases where any flaking affects some sections of the topcoat surface or expose the underlying timber substrate:

- a. Utilise sandpaper (grit 180–220) to gently sand the affected area, ensuring the removal of all unstable coating while creating a smooth surface transition.
- b. Thoroughly cleanse and wash the sanded region to eliminate dust, then allow it to completely dry.
- c. Apply a wood oil in the appropriate shade, colour, and/or gloss level to the damaged area. Allow the first coat to dry before applying a second coat.

### Charred layer products

Inflamed's more intensely charred finishes necessitate less maintenance compared to brushed finishes where more of the natural wood is visible. Our charring process contributes to the wood's durability, extending the time between finish reapplication. However, the charred layer will naturally weather over time. It's typical for this charred layer to experience weathering or minor damage as time goes on. This contributes to the unique character of the product, embracing the Japanese concept of 'Wabi-Sabi,' which elaborates the beauty of ageing and imperfections.



Image 3. Deep char cladding

Initially, the charred layer is securely sealed at the factory, but as years pass, the protective layer will erode, causing the charred layer to become less resistant. If the gradual ageing process doesn't align with your preferences and you wish to preserve the charred layer, periodic coating will be necessary. The frequency of renovation will be influenced by local weather conditions and the type of wood, which affects the adherence of the charred layer.

## Weather conditions during maintenance

During charred wood maintenance routine, ensure that the moisture content of the wood is less than 20%, whether temperature should a minimum of +5°C, and the relative humidity of the air below 80%. It's advisable to avoid oiling in direct sunlight, as this can lead to overly rapid drying, potentially compromising the durability of the oil coating.

## Resin Discharge

Resin is a natural component found in timber, often within pockets within the wood or in connection with knots. While certain wood species possess a higher natural resin content than others, the existence of resin is generally inconspicuous during the production of joinery. Resin discharge commonly takes place on south-facing sides and on joinery with darker hues, as the sun's warmth causes the resin to liquefy and migrate to the surface. Once dried, resin can be eliminated using a gentle bristle brush and lukewarm soapy water or denatured ethyl alcohol. Other substance might result of coating damage.

**Important notice:** This installation guide is intended to provide general advice and recommendations for the installation and usage of charred wood (aka Yakisugi) boards. However, it is essential to understand that this guide serves only as a suggestion and not as professional advice. You are strongly encouraged to seek the expertise of a qualified fitting professional before proceeding with any installation or application of charred wood boards.