

THANK YOU FOR USING SOUTHILL SAWMILLS FOR YOUR BESPOKE GATES

This leaflet is designed to help you get the most out of your new gates give them longest life possible and keep them looking great.

Timber is a natural product and without the correct care and attention can move, bow, warp, discolour or decompose. Thankfully all this can be avoided with the correct handling and treatment, which is outlined here.

I hope you find the information enclosed useful, if there is anything more you wish to know please do just call us or drop us an email and we will do our very best to help.



Southill Sawmills
Southill Park
Southill
Beds, SG18 9LW

01462 819173
sales@southillsawmills.co.uk
www.southillsawmills.co.uk

Southill Sawmills

Treating & preserving your wooden
Gates and Garage Doors

WWW.SOUTHILLSAWMILLS.CO.UK

WHAT'S BEST FOR EXTERNAL TIMBER?

If you decide to oil your wooden gates or doors be aware that you could end up having to regularly apply coats of oil up to every 2-3 months to keep the timber in tip-top condition.

Do not use fence paint or stain. Fence paint is usually made solely for rough sawn timber and will not adequately protect smooth planed timber.

Do not use gloss paints. If water does penetrate the paintwork then it won't be able to escape effectively and will rot the timber from underneath the paint.

Use a microporous or moisture vapour permeable paint or stain. This will allow the timber to breathe whilst stopping any moisture from entering the timber. A good quality microporous paint or stain will also contain an Ultra-Violet (UV) filter to help protect against damage caused to the timber by sunlight.

ULTRA VIOLET STAIN

As mentioned, we recommend using stains that contain a UV filter. The British Woodworking federation do not recommend using clear stains with UV filters for external use. Think of the stain as sun tan lotion, the darker the stain the greater the sun protection factor.

HOW TO PAINT OR STAIN YOUR GATES

Before you hang your gates you'll need at least one coat of your chosen treatment, however the more coats the better. Start by coating the rear of the gates.



1. Start with the areas marked 1, coat the higher areas first and work down. Be sure to coat the top and underside of any horizontal rails. Coat diagonal rails as you go.
2. Coat the face of any horizontal rails marked as 2 before moving onto any vertical uprights. Ensure all ends are well covered as these are end grains and particularly vulnerable.
3. Now coat the front of the gates repeating the process.
4. Finish by coating all outside edges.
5. DON'T FORGET THE UNDERSIDE!

TIPS FOR PAINTING AND STAINING TIMBER

1. Apply at least one coat before fitting
2. Coat both sides at the same time, do not leave one side to dry, this can cause warping of the timber
3. Paint/stain in the same direction as the grain.
4. Use a synthetic brush for for water based paints and natural brushes for oil based.
5. Make sure end grains get plenty of treatment.
6. Watch out for any drips or runs and brush them out straight away.

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