Modinex

Charred Timber Cladding (Shou Sugi Ban)

Care & Maintenance

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Scope

This guide applies to Modinex charred timber cladding products installed in exterior applications.

What to expect over time

Charred timber cladding is produced by controlled surface charring, creating a carbon layer that enhances durability and resistance to insects and decay.

Depending on the finish, the surface may be brushed and sealed, or retain a heavier char texture. Over time, surface appearance may gradually change depending on exposure, orientation and environmental conditions.

Where timber is installed near water, such as swimming pools, ponds, water features, rivers or coastal environments, reflected light from the water surface can increase UV exposure. This can accelerate weathering of coatings and surface colour. In these locations, inspect the timber more frequently and maintain finishes as required.

Cleaning

General cleaning

— Avoid abrasive cleaning methods.
— Gently remove dust and debris using a soft brush.
— If required, lightly rinse with low-pressure water.
— Do not use high-pressure washing, as this can damage the char layer.
— In coastal environments, periodic gentle rinsing is recommended to remove salt build-up.

Handling

— Charred surfaces may transfer carbon if heavily textured and unsealed. Avoid aggressive contact or friction against the surface.

Maintaining your product

Inspection

— Inspect annually for coating wear, particularly on exposed elevations.

Recoating

— Recoat in line with the coating manufacturer's guidance.
— Recoat before the protective layer breaks down to preserve colour consistency and surface integrity.

Indicative recoating timeframes for clear or pigmented sealers:

— Standard suburban exposure: approximately 12–24 months
— High UV, coastal or western exposure: approximately 9–18 months

Actual timeframes will vary depending on exposure, orientation and coating system.

Environmental considerations
— Areas exposed to driving rain or sprinklers may experience uneven wear.
— Sheltered areas will retain their appearance for longer periods.

Surface texture
— Heavily charred profiles may shed small amounts of carbon during early life. This typically reduces over time, particularly where a sealer has been applied.

Maintenance frequency guide

Environment	Inspection	Cleaning	Recoating (if required)
Standard exposure	6-12 months	6-12 months	12-24 months typical
Coastal	3-6 months	3-6 months	9-18 months typical
High UV	6 months	6 months	May require earlier recoating

Disclaimer
This guide provides general care advice. Project conditions, detailing, coating systems and environmental exposure will affect performance. Always confirm the coating system applied and refer to the coating manufacturer's documentation.

Typical species supplied for Charred Cladding include Spotted Gum and Ironbark. Modinex may also source additional hardwood species for project-specific applications.

Maintenance requirements may vary depending on the species, coating system and project conditions. For project-specific advice, contact Modinex.