

## FACT SHEET

### FENCE PAINT

With the harsh Australian climate, coupled with insect and plant attack, the need for regular maintenance and surface protection should not be neglected. It is too late after major decay sets in, or after the fence collapses. You will be faced with a large bill for replacement and a substantial labour requirement to repair the damage.

Fence paint is the ideal protective coating, relatively cheap, easy to use and available in a range of colours and provides an effective solution.

Most fence paints are acrylic-based, so paint equipment can be cleaned in water. It is quick drying and may be used on both new timber and old aged fences. It does not usually need primer or undercoat.

Prior to application, the surface should be free of dust, dirt, mould, mildew, etc. Replace any damaged timber and apply one coat, using either brush, roller, or spray. Under normal conditions, the paint

will be touch dry in 30 minutes, but allow two to three hours drying time before recoating.

When using a spray, you may need to thin the paint with a little water. Coverage will vary, depending on the absorbency of the timber. An approximate guide on smooth timber is 15 square metres to the litre. Clean up the equipment with warm soapy water and remove any dried spots with methylated spirits.

In summary, surface preparation is important and the manufacturer's instructions should always be adhered to. Ensure you have sufficient paint to complete the job, and clean your equipment as soon as the job is finished.

A freshly painted fence complements the house and the surrounding environment. Further, a fence will be protected against decay for a considerable period of time. Regular maintenance always pays off in the long run.