

**PAINTING "STAINING WOODS" (SUCH AS CEDAR AND REDWOOD)**

Many woods, especially cedar and redwood, contain natural ingredients, which can bleed through primer and finish coats of paint, creating an unsightly stain. These ingredients, commonly called "tannins" or "tannic acid" vary in color from light to dark depending on the color of the heart wood of the species of lumber. These tannins are readily dissolved in water, and so are most often seen staining the finish of a latex paint. This is particularly troublesome, since 100% acrylic latex paints have proven to be the best paints for protecting wood (see Bulletin "Painting To Preserve, Protect, and Beautify Exterior Wood").

New technology in the paint industry now allows some control of staining wood tannins by 100% acrylic latex primers, if they are properly applied. The key is to "lock" the tannin stain into the primer coat by allowing the primer to "cure" before topcoating. Once securely locked into the primer coat, the tannin stain should not migrate into the topcoat.

Typically overnight to 24-hour dry is adequate cure time for a state-of-the-art acrylic latex primer to substantially "lock in" tannin stains and prevent or minimize transfer into the topcoat.

A suggested method of painting new woods, cedar, and redwood in particular, would involve the following process:

- ④ Application of premium quality 100% acrylic latex primer in a full, uniform coat to minimize pinholes or "holidays" in the primer film. Allow to dry overnight to 24 hours.
- ④ Apply finish coat of premium 100% acrylic latex finish. Allow to dry per label directions.
- ④ Examine the finish for signs of tannin stain bleed through. Touch up, as required, using an alkyd ("oil-based") primer. Following recommended dry time of touch-up primer, refinish affected areas, or apply second finish coat overall.