



## **Cypress Fact Sheet**

Cypress contains a natural preservative known as cypressene, its an oil which gives the wood a natural resistance to insects and decay. When the surface of the wood is suitably treated, cypress offers superior durability, holding paint and stain well and resisting weather. Cypress is a beautiful, distinctive, and durable wood that assures years of trouble-free satisfaction and its uses reflect that. In addition to rugged outdoor furniture, cypress is regularly used in building construction posts, beams, desks, docks, porch flooring, greenhouses and siding. Because of its durability, cypress can be used in many of the same products as cedar and redwood. Cypress is all but indestructible. It is a close-grain wood that resists checking and warping, and it is long-lasting as well as weather-resistant. Cypress can be easily painted and holds paint longer than other wood. If you choose to paint this product, you should use an exterior oil-based primer (white or gray) followed by an exterior oil or latex paint of your choice. If you choose to have the product remain natural, you should apply a natural oil-based stain or preservative annually or as needed. Note: Cypress is a dense wood and the drying process may take several days depending on humidity and temperature. Small cracks called weather checking may appear in the wood. This is a natural process and will not affect the useful life of this product.

## **HOW TO TAKE CARE OF MY NEW CYPRESS SWING (choose one of the four)**

- **Water Sealer** – My personal favorite is the GREEN LABEL Thompson’s Water Sealer. It can be found at Walmart, Lowes, Home Depot, etc. The sealer contains a mildew retardant, UV protectant and water sealer. I personally just fill up a spray bottle and wet my swings down a couple times a year or as needed.
- **High Quality Outdoor Stain** – My personal favorite is Cabot’s Australian Timber Oil. It can be found at Lowes and comes in three colors...Natural, Brown and Mohogany. I’m sure there are many other good outdoor stains out there but this one is the one we use. Re-apply the stain as needed when / if the stain starts fading.
- **High Quality Outdoor Paint** – Make sure and use a high quality exterior oil-based primer...followed by an exterior oil or latex paint.
- **I don’t want to do anything to my new swing** – this is actually OK too...several of the swings in my yard are 20 years old and I haven’t done a thing to them. Cypress tends to hold up very well just ‘naturally’. Note that over a couple of months, the Cypress will start turning a ‘barn gray’ color. The UV from the sun stains only the outer surface of the cypress this color. Just underneath is shiny new wood. While this is the easiest option...I still recommend one of the three options listed above to assure your swing lasts a LONG time!