

## Proper Care & Maintenance for Wood Structures

Berlin Gardens wood structures include Wood Pavilions, Wood Pergolas, and Wood Gazebos, and are made manufactured with ACQ treated, air-dried, southern yellow pine. Unless specified otherwise, all structures are stained or painted in a climate-controlled staining booth located at Berlin Gardens. Even-though our lumber is pressure treated to resist decay, all wood structures receive two coats of stain or paint, to further protect and enhance the beauty of the wood structure. To avoid warping and/or twisting, Berlin Gardens has also elected to use laminated posts on all wood structures.

All fasteners such as; screws, bolts and nuts are specifically treated to withstand the treatment of the lumber and differing weather elements. Our fasteners are ICC rated, known in the construction industry as a standard of excellence.

While Berlin Gardens believes they have designed their wood structures to meet and exceed industry standards, like all lumber products exposed to the elements, your wooden structure will weather over time. Eventually, you will notice splits, cracks or checks and separations in the wood caused by changes in moisture content. This is perfectly natural, and many feel it adds to the character of the structure.

To keep your wood structure beautiful for years to come; it is recommended after the first season, to apply the provided touch up stain to any checks or splits that may occur. It is also recommended to re-stain your complete structure every 2-3 years, depending on the direct weather exposure, such as sunlight, your wood structure receives. Stain of any amount can be purchased through your local Berlin Gardens dealer. Our stain and paint are soy-based products that are completely green compliant.

It is also permissible when cleaning, to handwash using a mixture of warm water and a general-purpose cleaner and scrubbing with a soft bristle brush. To avoid stripping the paint or stain from the wood, it is recommended to not use a pressure washer, unless otherwise advised. Cleaning with any abrasive soap, wood stripper or chemical known to damage wood, and sandpaper should be avoided.