

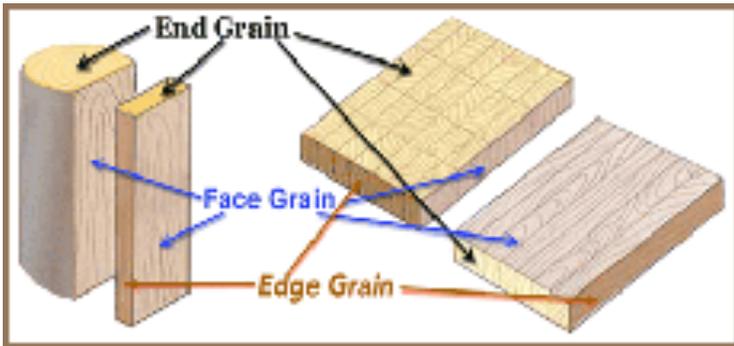
# Smart Words for Smart Homeowners

THE EXPERIENCE OF EXPERTS AND THEIR ADVICE ON RELEVANT HOMEOWNER TOPICS

## Wood End Grain Rot

### Overview

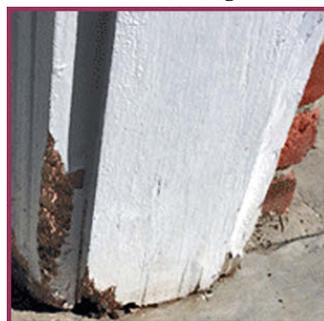
When it's a tree the fibrous grains in wood are intended to deliver moisture from the roots through the trunk to its branches and leaves on the upper end of the tree. During its life the trunk does this very effectively. It lifts and delivers gallons of water long distances each day. After a tree is sliced into boards its trunk grain continues this habit. It finds



and pulls moisture from everywhere and delivers it into the board.

Moisture inside the wood causes rot. If wood is sealed properly it will resist moisture penetration. That's how to protect wood from rotting. Everybody knows that. So why, when you look at your door sills, garage sills, window sill ends, brick moldings, and the trim around the outside of your home do you find soft peeling wood; aka, rot. Because it wasn't primed or sealed properly or ever.

Watch most carpenters take a section of pre-primed exterior wood. They



measure it, cut it to the right size and nail it up. That cut end now has No Primer. It will eventually rot. Guaranteed. It will find moisture and deliver it to its interior. Promise.

Damage prevention is best. You need two inexpensive items to fix this before it ever happens. Every time you put any wood on the outside of your house do this; prime it, seal it, paint it. Use the "Best of Breed" materials because they will not betray your efforts. A good caulk, a good primer and a good finish paint. We use Phenoseal®, an adhesive, vinyl, caulk. It gives us great, long lasting results. We use Sherwin-Williams exterior grade primers. Sherwin-Williams has many specialty primers but for general tasks we use All-Purpose Primer. It adheres well, dries fast and seals wood perfectly. We use DURATION® because it looks wonderful and delivers a great warranty...for as long as you own your home.

To repair rot takes time and patience. Cut out the rotted section, prime the cut ends that show. Fabricate a new unit to fit snugly into the space, prime the cut and mating ends. After the primer cures glue and fasten the units together. Seal open and mating joints with caulking. When the caulk cures, prime it all. Then, when the primer cures, finish paint it.



