

# How to Properly Maintain TITEBOND

## **WeatherMaster Sealants**

Titebond® WeatherMaster™ Sealants deliver many of the strengths of other types of sealants, without the disadvantages. WeatherMaster Sealants possess the adhesion and strength of urethane sealants, without the weaknesses of difficult tooling, high VOC/odor, cracking and alligatoring of the sealant with exposure to UV and weathering. Water-based acrylic sealants cannot be extruded down to 0°F and cannot be used in the rain or on moist substrates like WeatherMaster Sealants. Silicones excel at UV/weathering, but lack the adhesion, strength and paintability of WeatherMaster Sealants. The eventual UV/weathering and subsequent color change (bleaching) of WeatherMaster Sealants, is minimized by the sealant's ability to maintain a smooth surface that allows the sealant to be painted to a like-new appearance.

Formulations of WeatherMaster Sealants are optimized to provide long life under heavy UV/weathering conditions. To accomplish this, UV inhibitors are added. These UV inhibitors are only effective on the polymer surface, so the sealant is infused with plasticizers to continuously bring UV inhibitor to the surface over time. As the UV inhibitor is depleted under weathering conditions, a new supply is brought to the surface from the sealant below. Once this UV inhibitor is depleted, the sealant will whiten. For this reason, sealant beads less than 1/4" are not covered under the warranty, as they will lighten more quickly. But even this whitening can be considered a benefit, as the sealant visually informs the building manager that it is time for maintenance (painting). In addition, certain pigments can whiten under UV and thus, some colors can experience color changes over time. We work to use the best pigments available, but color changes of the sealant do not always match the color changes of the siding over time, potentially leaving a mismatched color under certain conditions.

Joints sealed with WeatherMaster Sealant products that have experienced bleaching or color change will continue to display WeatherMaster's trusted level of adhesion, expansion and contraction capability, and their ability to seal the exposed joint. Bleaching is only a surface phenomenon and will not affect the performance of the underlying sealant.

As a remedy to sealant bleaching, painting over the bleached sealant areas with an appropriate color-matched, premium water-based paint that does not contain plasticizer is recommended. Solvent-based paints should be tested prior to application. To minimize possible plasticizer migration on flat paint (shiners), it is recommended to paint over sealant areas with a shellac-based primer, such as Kilz Original Primer or Zinsser BIN Primer before color painting. After painting, the sealant will be protected from UV exposure and will continue to perform as normal.

Please note application guidelines, limitations and warranties for this product, as expressed on our technical data sheet. These can be downloaded from our website at [www.titebond.com](http://www.titebond.com), or please call our technical service line at 1-800-347-4583 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time).



Visit [Titebond.com](http://Titebond.com) for the most up-to-date product information.

**Franklin International**

