

 **Copper in Architecture**

Factory Pre-Patinated Copper

The natural weathering of copper from its bright pink to the characteristic blue-green colour (patina) is a direct consequence of its reaction to the corrosive action of the atmosphere. In industrial and marine atmospheres, the natural patina generally forms in 5 to 7 years. In rural atmospheres, with relatively clean air patina formation may occur in 10 to 14 years. In arid desert environments, the patina formation may never occur and the copper surface may remain a dark brown or bronze colour.

The large number of requests by the architectural community for a man-made patina has prompted copper mills to research and develop pre-patinated copper sheet products. The patina is a chemical conversion process whereby the top molecular surface of the copper sheet is enhanced and forced to produce a natural patina.



Since some of the pre-patinated sheets have a variation in their final colour, it is recommended that the architect review material samples before final specifications. Please contact Austral Wright Metals for details.

