



# CLADDING

## Thermowood

The Ideal Choice for Cladding.

As a result of the Thermowood process the typical characteristics of softwoods are improved to levels often found in tropical hardwoods; i.e. high durability and excellent stability. These properties are consistent throughout the entire cross section.

### **Reduced Swelling in Humid Conditions,**

The Thermowood process leads to a significant reduction in equilibrium moisture content and also improves the dimensional stability which means it has dramatically reduced swelling in width when subjected to changes in relative humidity.

### **Resistance to Fungal Attack,**

Thermowood also has significantly improved levels of durability against fungi attack. With a durability rating of Class 3. Thermowood should be capable of satisfying performance requirements for 30years of service when used for cladding.

### **Resistant to Insect Attack,**

Our Thermowood has proven resistance to attack from the three most common wood-boring insects found in Europe – The House Longhorn Beetle, Common Furniture Beetle and the Powder post Beetle.

### **Weathering,**

Thermowood has an attractive golden brown appearance which if left without any surface coating, will start to grey and weather in quite a short period of time.

### **Splitting Strength,**

As a result of the Thermowood process there is a reduction in the splitting strength properties of Thermowood compared to the original timber.

### **No Leaching,**

As no substances are added during the Thermowood process, no chemical leaching will occur. Also, as the resin is removed during the process the problem of resin leakage through knots or pitch pockets is also removed.

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## **WESTERN RED CEDAR CLADDING**

The Most Popular Choice for Exterior Work.

### **One of the Easiest Timbers to Work with,**

It's straight grain and uniform texture makes Western Red Cedar one of the easiest timbers to work. It planes and sands very clearly; it's easy to saw, machine, nail and it glues well with a range of adhesives.

### **Good Insulation Properties,**

Western Red Cedar heartwood is renowned for its HIGH DECAY RESISTANCE and its good insulation properties, far superior to brick, concrete and steel. Structures built from Western Red Cedar will be cooler in the summer and warmer in winter. It's very good weathering characteristics makes it POPULAR FOR EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS.

### **Great Finishing Properties,**

The lack of pitch or resinous extractives means it has good finishing properties enabling it to take a variety of coatings, paints and stains exceptionally well.

### **Weathered Appearance,**

Freshly machined Clear Western Red Cedar seems to vary from a light straw colour to a dark red/brown, but the colour becomes more uniform in natural light. It is much sought after for its "weathered" appearance.

### **Unlikely to Warp or Twist,**

Western Red Cedar has a low wood density and LOW SHRINKAGE FACTOR which means it is unlikely to warp or twist. It also has an ability to dampen vibrations, making it EFFECTIVE IN REDUCING OR CONFINING NOISE and therefore good for panelling and moulding.

IT IS DIMENSIONALLY STABLE AND HOLDS ITS PLACE WELL IN USE.

### **High Natural Resistance to Decay,**

Western Red Cedar is reported to have a very high natural resistance to decay. It should perform well when in contact with the ground. Although the mild UK winters are the exception as they can promote decay. In terms of durability it is long lasting when properly treated.

**Uses:** Cladding, Decking, Fences, Gates and Sidings.

### **Grades,**

James E Smith are able to offer Clear Grade Western Red Cedar which is supplied with a smooth finish and is suitable where a more formal appearance is required. James E Smith can offer a wide variety of patterns for panelling and mouldings or we can custom produce to your requirements.

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## **CLEAR DOUGLAS FIR CLADDING.**

The Designers Choice.

Douglas Fir is best known for its tough fibre, dense grain structure and strength. Appreciated by designers and architects alike it has a rich visual quality that responds to fine craftsmanship and finishing.

### **Attractive Grain and Colour,**

Douglas Fir has a light, rose colour, which darkens over time when exposed to UV rays. When sawn, its vertical grain is particularly attractive and has a remarkably straight grain pattern. The type and quantity; grain pattern, colour, texture and knot size; as well as quality manufacturing all determine the grade, with each grain having its own characteristics. Moisture content levels are carefully controlled in the highest grades to ensure products will meet the strict dimensional stability requirements of furniture manufacturers and cabinet makers.

### **Exceptional Finish,**

Douglas Fir machines to an exceptional smooth, glossy finish and when dry it retains its shape and size without shrinking, swelling, cupping, warping, bowing or twisting, and generally won't show a raised grain. The higher grades of Douglas Fir are quite refined with sound, tight knots making it suitable for shelving, cladding and panelling. It is dimensional stable and recognised for its strength-to-weight ratio. Its high specific gravity provides superb nail and plate-holding ability.

### **Finishing Touch,**

Clear coatings, transparent lacquer, varnishes, oils, wax, bright or subdued stains, tints or paints and enamels are all appropriate finishes.

### **Characteristics,**

Durability: Rated as moderately resistant to decay. Requiring proper and adequate protection.

**Finishing,** Paints, stains and varnishes all work well.

**Workability,** Easy to cut, saw, plane, nail, turn and glue. Works very well, with hand and power tools. Moulding qualities are very good.

**Resistant to Abrasion,** Good, works well in areas where hardness is a factor.

**Hardness,** Medium.

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## **SIBERIAN LARCH CLADDING.**

For a Contemporary Feel.

### **Ideal for exposed Elevations.**

Siberian larch is commonly used for cladding and joinery. In fact it has been used in construction for centuries and in Russia it is quite common to find buildings constructed from Larch dating back 800 years. It is ideal for exposed elevations or where there are likely to be knocks or scrapes as it is very hardwearing.

### **The Perfect timber for Cladding.**

Timber cladding is an attractive and economical way to finish the exterior of both new and old buildings and is growing in popularity due to the contemporary feel that it creates. Importantly, it also provides a hardwearing, protective layer against the elements and it is an excellent insulator.

### **Growing in Popularity.**

Siberian Larch is also growing in popularity for floors, windows, door frames and furniture.

### **Strong Grain Pattern.**

Siberian Larch has a pale yellow-orange brown colour with a strong grain pattern. Due to the fact that the trees are slow growing in the extreme climate the result is tight growth rings and a fine grain.

### **Impressive Dimensional Stability.**

This characteristic means that it has a low cost of installation and is low maintenance.

### **Natural Resistance to Decay.**

Siberian Larch has a naturally high density which makes it more difficult for decaying organisms to penetrate the wood. The harsh Siberian climate means that Siberian Larch has a very high percentage of latewood (over 70%) and a very tight grain. This late wood is denser and stronger than early wood which means it is much more durable.

### **One of the Toughest and most Durable Softwoods in the World.**

Siberian Larch also has a high resin content which further enhances its resistance to decay and rot, surpassing Oak, Ash and Pine. It is also extremely hard. It is important to distinguish Siberian Larch from European Larch which is less durable & of a lower quality.

### **Workability.**

Unlike British Larch the knots in Siberian Larch are light in colour and less likely to fall out after drying and machining. Siberian Larch can be sawn, drilled, machined or sanded without any problem. As it is a naturally beautiful wood very little finishing is required. For indoor applications it should be kiln dried.

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## **SCANDINAVIAN REDWOOD CLADDING**

The Cost effective Choice.

V Redwood is currently the most cost effective timber to choose for cladding. Whilst moderately resistant to decay, it should be pressure treated prior to being used for external applications such as cladding, a service that is recommended and provided by James E Smith (Northern) Ltd.

In terms of working properties it machines and glues well, takes nails and screws satisfactorily. Stains and paints to an excellent finish, dries well and only shrinks a little.

Physically it has a medium overall strength, low shock resistance and is stable.

The claddings can be machined to any profile and size. We can offer our standard profile range and we can electronically send you diagrams of the patterns, for you to choose at your leisure. We also offer a bespoke tooling service, where we can machine a profile of your choice.

Please note for all our claddings, minimum quantities may apply, so please discuss further with our sales team for clarification. We look forward to receiving any future enquiries.

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