

Sweet chestnut grows across Great Britain and offers an alternative to oak. The wood has a similar appearance to oak although the colour is more consistent and the grain is more pronounced. Unlike oak, sweet chestnut is stable and relatively lightweight for a hardwood.

Being dry and relatively free of knots, sweet chestnut is suited to machined profiles. The natural stability of the wood helps to maintain straight lines as the cladding boards weather.

To ensure that we maximize the use of this beautiful tree, we tend to offer our sweet chestnut cladding in a finger-jointed format. This also allows us to tightly control the grade by cutting out any undesirable knots and reduce movement by removing angled grain.

We firmly believe that using our native sweet chestnut is an essential part of ensuring that our local woodlands are managed and nurtured for the future

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Jointed sweet chestnut cladding

Produced to comply with the harmonised standard for construction products regulation BSEN14915:2013 and to conform to BS8605-1:2014 External timber cladding: Method for specifying.

Trade Name	Air-dried sweet chestnut		
Base timber	English sweet chestnut		
Species	Fagaceae astanea sativa		
Process	Finger jointed		
Origin	Legal and well-managed forests in England and Wales.		
Intended use	External cladding		
Other uses	Joinery and furniture		
Appearance	Newly machined boards will be a relatively consisten light straw colour (More consistent in colour than oak). Some pieces may include brown mineral colouring. Being jointed from shorter lengths, the colour variation will be more exaggerated and the zigzag joints will be noticeable.		
Weathering	As the boards weather the colour will change to a silver-grey. On shaded elevations or in areas of higher pollution the sweet chestnut may weather to more of a black colouring. In semi-shaded areas such as under eaves, the exuding tannin may leave unsightly stains.		
Profiles	All machined profiles available		
Dimensions	20 × 70mm, 20 × 95mm, 20 × 120mm, 20 × 145mm		
Lengths	Jointed at either 4.0mt or 6.0mt allowing for a small % of cutbacks.		
Moisture content	Approx 16 – 20%		
Natural durability (EN350-2)	Durable Class 2		
Insect attack	Sapwood can be attacked by the powder post beetl (Lyctus spp). However, sap is normally excluded fror cladding boards.		
Desired service life (BS8417)	Occasionally wet 60yrs Frequently wet 30yrs		
Treatability class	Resistant		
Movement class	Small (effect reduced due to finger-jointed format) (more stable than oak)		
Resistance to impact	Medium		
Resistance to fixing	Medium. Pre-drilling recommended.		
Mean density	540 – 650 kg / M3		
When to fix	Ideally Autumn / Winter. Avoid hottest months.		
How to fix	Face fix or secret fix with stainless steel ringshank nails. Pre-drilling advised.		



Weathered jointed sweet chestnut cladding

Appearance	Newly machined boards will be a relatively consistent light straw colour. As the boards weather, the colour will change to a silver-grey patina.		
Grading	BS1186-3 1990 Class 2. EN942:2007. J30. CE grade A. Clean with a few sound knots up to 30mm and regular small pips.		
Working properties	Average workability (easier than oak). Takes fixings satisfactorily.		
Extractives	Like oak, sweet chestnut contains tannic acid, which will corrode ferrous metals. When the two come into contact, a blue sludge is formed that will stain the wood and anything else it meets. All fixings used in conjunction with sweet chestnut should be stainless steel. Tannic acid could also leave unsightly brown stains on the surface of the cladding and will stain any porous materials below the cladding. The reactivity of tannin makes sweet chestnut cladding unsuitable for polluted areas and shaded areas.		
Emission of formaldehyde (EN14915)	E1 (Not significant)		
Reaction to fire (EN14915)	Euroclass F (Untested). D-s2, d0		
Fire treatment	Impregnation not possible.		
CE compliant	Yes		

While the utmost care has been taken to provide accurate information, Vastern Timber shall not be held responsible for any consequences arising from any errors or omissions on this document nor for any damages resulting from the use of the information.

Cladding profiles – machined range

Halflap	Tongue and groove with a v-joint	Shiplap Splaye	d
VHL1 VHL2 VHL3 VHL4 VHL5 VHL6 VHL7 20	VTG1 VTG2 VTG3 VTG4 VTG4A VTG5 VTG5A VTG6 28 1	VSL1 VSL2 VSL3 VSP1	
		39 31 45 33 ³	

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