VasternTimber
Air Dried British Larch Cladding

Overview

British larch cladding is sourced locally from well-managed forests in England and Wales, most of which are within 100 miles of our sawmills here in Wiltshire.

Larch grown in Great Britain is European larch (Larix deciudua), which differs significantly from Siberian larch in both appearance and performance.

British-grown larch has a pinkish hue and tends to feature prominent knots, giving it a distinctive character. When supplied as air-dried, it's best suited to simple machined cladding profiles such as halflap (VHL), shiplap (VSL) and splayed (VSP).

Because larch is relatively unstable, we do not recommend secret fix T&G profiles (VTG).

Technical Specification

Produced to comply with the harmonized standard for construction products regulation BS EN 14915:2013+A2:2020 and to conform to BS8605-1:2014 External timber cladding: Method for specifying.

Wood Specie

European larch (*Larix decidua*)

Origin

Legal and well-managed forests in England and Wales. UKTR Compliant.

Intended Use / Use Class (BS EN 335)

External wall cladding (above ground), generally classified as Use Class 3

Other Uses

Decking

Grading (BS EN942:2007) (BS1186-3)

Supplied either as Grade A or Grade B and in some cases as a mixed A/B.

Grade A = (BS1186-3) Class 1. (BS EN942:2007) J30. Generally clean allowing for occasional sound knots and small resin pockets. Sap on the edges included. No Rot, insect damage or pith will show on the front face.

Grade B = (BS1186-3) Class 3. (BS EN942:2007) J50. Generally knotty, allowing unlimited sound knots and occasional small resin pockets. Sap on the edges included. No Rot, insect damage or pith will show on the front face.

Surface Finish

Machined / smooth

Orientation

Vertical or horizontal

Thickness

20mm

Width

70mm, 95mm, 120mm & 145mm

Tolerances

Thickness +/- 0.5mm, width +/- 1mm

Lengths

Random 1.8 – 3.7mt+, allowing a small % down to 1.5mt.

Moisture Content

Air dried to 16 – 19%

Durability (EN350-2)

Durable Class 3

Insect Attack

Resistant

Desired Service Life (BS8417)

30+ years

Movement Class

Large

Resistance to Impact

High

Resistance to Fixing

Medium

Mean Density

560 kg / M3

When to Fix

Avoid summer months

Recommended Fixings

Face fix with stainless steel ring shank nails or screws. Pre-drilling advised to reduce splitting, particularly at the ends.

Battens

Durable, thermo-treated or green treated softwood 40 x 45mm at 400–500mm centres. Plus 25–40mm x 45mm counter batten for vertical cladding.

Circularity

Supplied without surface coatings or added chemicals.

Screw fix for easy deconstruction and replacement of damaged boards.

End of life – Recycle, burn or compost.

Working Properties

Good workability. Takes fixings satisfactorily.

Extractives

Contains resin rather than oil or tannin. Not reactive.

Emission of Formaldehyde (EN14915)

E1 (Not significant)

Reaction to Fire (EN14915)

Euroclass F (Untested). D-s2, d0

Fire Retardant Treatment / Coating

Possible

UKCA Compliant (EN14915)

Yes

Product Appearance and Profile Diagrams →

Air Dried British Larch Cladding

Appearance

The colour of British larch ranges from pinky-brown in the heartwood, to pale cream in the sapwood.

Weathering
The surface colour will change to silver-grey over 24 to 36 months. Larch tends to weather evenly. Northerly elevations may grow mould and darken. The boards may cup slightly during warm weather and develop small surface cracks.



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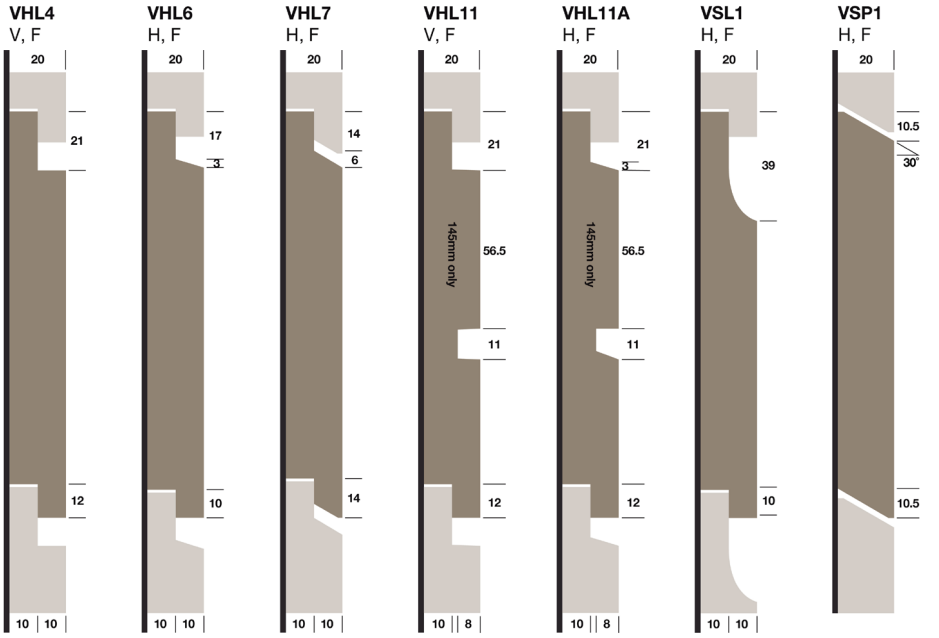
Installation

General Installation Guidance

- Only use stainless steel fixings.
- **Allow min 2mm expansion gap between overlapping boards.**
- Allow adequate air circulation behind cladding.
- Attach breather membrane between external face of building and battens.
- Allow min 10mm drainage gap at base of cladding.
- Install insect mesh to close off cavity behind cladding.

Popular Profiles

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(V) Vertical orientation / (H) Horizontal orientation / (F) Exposed nail through face / (T) Hidden nail through tongue

Further Information

'Selecting The Right Timber Cladding' CPD introduces the wide range of timber cladding available in the market, including British and imported timber species. The presentation also considers the environmental and design factors affecting timber cladding and how to consider these during the decision-making process.

CPD CERTIFIED
The CPD Certification Service

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

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