VasternTimber
Air Dried British Sweet Chestnut Cladding

Overview

Sweet chestnut grows widely across Great Britain and offers an excellent alternative to oak. While similar in appearance, it has a more consistent colour and a more pronounced grain.

Unlike oak, sweet chestnut is naturally stable and relatively lightweight for a hardwood. This version is supplied in random lengths without finger joints.

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

British sweet chestnut
(Fagaceae castanea sativa)

Origin

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

Process

None

Intended Use / Use Class (BS EN 335)

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

Other Uses

Fencing

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

(BS1186-3) Class 2. (BS EN942:2007) J40. Clean with regular small pips and a few sound knots up to 40mm. No sap, rot, pith, blue stain, cross grain or excessive worm damage.

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 – 3.0mt+, allowing a small % down to 1.5mt. Subject to availability

Moisture Content

Air dried to 16 – 19%

Durability (EN350-2)

Durable Class 3

Insect Attack

Resistant

Desired Service Life (BS8417)

30 years +

Movement Class

Small

Resistance to Impact

Low

Resistance to Fixing

Low

Mean Density

600 kg / M3

When to Ffix

No restrictions

Recommended Fixings

Face fix or secret fix with stainless steel ring shank nails or screws.

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

Sweet chestnut contains tannic acid, which reacts with ferrous metals to form a blue- black stain. All fixings should therefore be stainless steel. Tannins may also cause brown staining on the cladding surface and on any porous materials below. Due to its reactivity, sweet chestnut cladding is not recommended for polluted or heavily shaded areas.

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 Sweet Chestnut Cladding

Appearance

Sweet chestnut is a relatively consistent light straw colour, although some pieces may include brown mineral streaks. The wood will include small pin knots, occasional medium sized sound knots and occasional small worm holes.

Weathering
As the boards weather, the colour will gradually shift to a silver-grey. On shaded elevations or in areas with higher pollution, sweet chestnut may darken.



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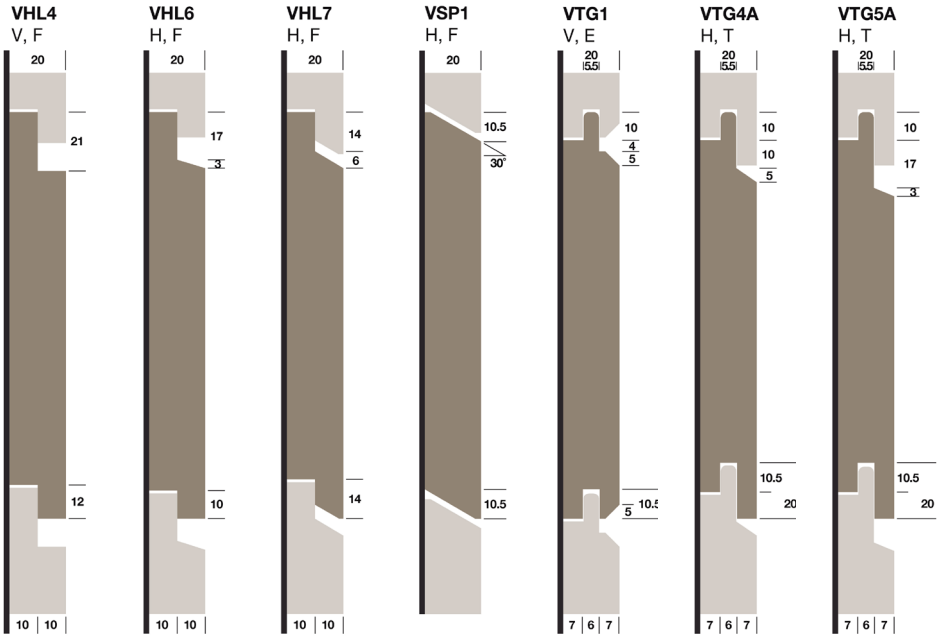
Installation

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.

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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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