

Suggested External Solid Timber Cladding

Note, the products supplied under these guidelines are covered under Australian Standard AS 4785.1---2003 SECTION 7 CLADDING, FASCIA AND BARGEBOARDS

Cladding Specie Selection

The specie should be at least durability class 2 above ground as defined by AS 5604---2003.

Special consideration may have to be given to a fire BAL rating, which also could narrow down the type of specie acceptable under the appropriate rating.

Profile Selection & Method of Fixing

Today there are different methods of installation, that are defined as follows;

- Face fixing. This method of fixing usually maximising coverage per board.
- Secret fixing. This method can reduce coverage because the lap has to cover the fixing pin. However, this practice should be carefully researched with us prior to ordering, particularly if the profile wider than (nominal) 100 millimetres.
- Semi concealed fixing. One pin is concealed (by the lap) and another exposed on the groove side. If precisely positioned the exposed pin can become a feature.
- The profiles should allow for expansion over the winter months.

In all cases the fixing method should be carefully researched. For example, Treated Pine cladding should be double face nailed to avoid excessive board movement. In some species, drilling may be necessary to avoid board splitting particularly near the ends.

On-site Storage

The product should be kept dry, preferably under cover (eg; a garage). If it has to be kept outside, keep it well off the ground and covered with waterproof sheeting.

Preparation Before Installing Cladding

A suggestion we strongly endorse is to seal the boards before installation. This is to apply a sealing agent such as Cutek to all faces, including in the joining edges. We can offer this process in a factory process. This sealing process is to minimising movement. It can help suppress sap bleed as well.

Cutek should be applied to the trimmed or cut to length ends before installing.

Ensure flashings are appropriately installed.

Sarking/insulation, must be weatherproof but vapour permeable or breather type. This should be positioned to deflect any moisture if it penetrates the cladding. If extreme weather is a regular occurrence further advice should be sought.

Weatherboard stops should be of the same specie as the cladding, if possible.

Installation

- Whether it is installed horizontally or vertically, it should be positioned in a way to keep moisture out.
- If used horizontally ensure the tongue is always pointing up for weatherproofing reasons.
- All joints should be neat and snug, to minimise the chance of moisture ingress.
- All end joints should have a bead of silicon applied to ensure no moisture can penetrate the cladding, particularly if the product is end matched.
- A rust proof fixing pin should be used.
- If in a marine environment, a stainless steel fixing pin should be used.
- The length of the pin should be 65 millimetres if going into a softwood, or 50 millimetres if going into a hardwood.
- We prefer screws, but if a nail is used it should have an annular shank.
- Do not install too close to the ground to avoid moisture uptake.

Post Installation

- The finishing coat (paint or stain) should be wherever possible a light colour. Dark colours attract more heat that can accentuate unwanted shrinkage.
- Regular maintenance checks should determine if further coatings are necessary to prolong the service life of the boards.