



Cedar is a sought-after and beautiful wood that is weather-resistant and dimensionally stable with natural rot resistance. Due to these superior properties, cedar does not require a finish and will age gracefully.

Offering of profile and grade

Södra offers requested profiles and lengths, such as panels and shingles or any other formats.

Södra only offers the highest grade of cedar, WRC Clear#2. Canadian cedar is particularly well-suited for exterior cladding and various structural works. The reddish-brown colour of cedar is a beautiful and striking architectural feature that is rarely unnoticed.

Remember that wood is a living natural material with variations in both colour and characteristics.



Advantages

- + Weather-resistant
- + Natural rot resistance
- + Does not require a finish
- + Dimensionally stable
- + Virtually knot-free
- + Sorted as normal waste wood
- + Multiple applications





Finishes

Unfinished

Unfinished cedar acquires a silver-grey patina over time. To preserve the original colour, the wood needs to be cleaned and finished regularly.

Oil finish

An oil finish won't discolour with time and makes cleaning easier. Before finishing, make sure the wood is clean. Use an oil with a high oil content containing ingredients to protect against mould and fungus. You could also use a pigmented oil. Apply the oil once before installation, once after and then whenever its needed. That would normally be about two to four years for south-facing wood, if the oil is water-based. If the finish is oil-based, every four to six years is enough.

Staining

Stained cedar requires less frequent maintenance than oiled cedar. The stain contains more binder, which changes the natural appearance of the wood slightly more. Ask your paint supplier to recommend the best product.



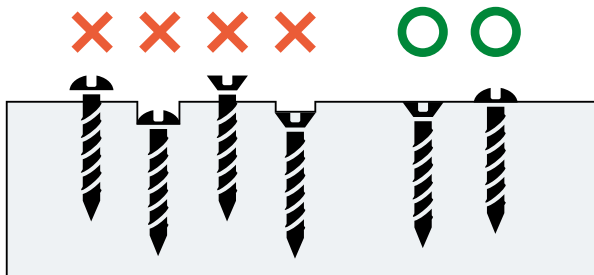
Installation

Acclimatisation

Since wood is a natural material, it can shrink and swell. To minimise any dimensional changes after installation, we recommend storing the wood where it will eventually be installed until it's time for installation. If stored outdoors, cover the wood with a tarpaulin to protect it from the weather.

Screws/nails

Use stainless steel nails and screws only, minimum A2 grade (or A4 marine grade), to avoid rust stains. For the best results, we recommend using a thin nail and pre-drilling if you are planning to screw the material together or if you are close to the end grain. Expect wood movement due to moisture content and avoid nailing through several overlapping layers. Fastenings such as screws and nails should be in line with the surface of the wood.



Combined materials

The acidic anti-rot properties of cedar also determine the type of material that cedar cladding can be combined with. The wrong type of material can cause drip marks on either the wood or on the surrounding material. The best materials to combine with cedar are stainless steel, copper, plastic, titanium zinc and galvanised aluminium. To prevent marks, any material that comes into contact with rainwater from cedar should be able to withstand a lower pH level. You should also be aware that porous materials (such as rendering or concrete) can be stained by the wood's tannins when it rains. Staining is greatest in the beginning and any stains on other material can usually be washed away, since the tannins are water-soluble. If the ventilation behind the wooden panelling is poor, or if the panelling is exposed to a lot of moisture, the risk of staining is higher. An encapsulating finish can reduce staining. Ask your paint supplier about the best type of finish if you cannot divert the rainwater away from sensitive surfaces.

Handling

When cedar is handled, it releases slightly higher levels of allergens than spruce and pine. It is therefore wise to use gloves, a face mask and safety goggles when sawing or working with cedar. These recommendations only apply during the processing stage. After installation, cedar does not emit higher levels of allergens.



Maintenance

Cleaning

Dirt is the most common cause of wood discolouration. This can be prevented by cleaning the wood regularly with a phosphate-free detergent. Discolouration may occur due to wood bleed, usually after exposure to moisture. If the stains are small, they will gradually disappear when the source of the moisture is eliminated. If the stains are in an area that is not exposed to the sun, they can deepen over time and will need to be washed with a mild oxalic acid or wood cleaner. Any stains from nails and screws that are not stainless steel can be removed with wood cleaner, or by gentle sanding or brushing.

Mildew

While cedar is naturally rot resistant and one of the woods that is most resistant to mildew, mildew may still occur. This is most common in moist environments and/or where there is a lot of vegetation nearby. The side of a building that is most in shadow is usually affected. Use a wood cleaner containing fungicides as soon as it appears to prevent it from spreading. The resulting wear may change the appearance of the wood slightly. Apply a finish to the wood again after cleaning.