Brookridge

Timber Cladding Installation Guidance

www.uktimbercladding.com

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Storage and Acclimatisation

The Brookridge range of untreated and pressure treated timber cladding will require time to acclimatise when it reaches site. Before it is fixed, it must reach an equilibrium moisture content with the surrounding air. Untreated Brookridge timber cladding will arrive on site fully wrapped.

It is important that the wrapping from the ends and sides of the pack are removed immediately to allow good air flow. If storing outside leaving the top of the packing on will give some protection from the elements and still allow air flow around the pack. Treated Brookridge timber cladding unless in racks will arrive on site unwrapped.

The timber cladding should be protected from direct sunlight, water saturation, snow, ice, dirt and other elements. It should be stored flat and off the ground on bearers and a vapour barrier so that moisture is not absorbed through the bottom boards of the pack.

The cladding should ideally be stored in a well ventilated dry location and the acclimatisation process can be speeded up by sticking every layer of the packs(s) with vertically aligned sticks.

It is important sticks are kept in line to avoid the cladding boards becoming misshaped. Treated timber cladding should be sticked every two pieces face to face so stick marks do not appear on the face during the acclimatisation process. It is important to measure boards prior to installation to check dimensions are fully acclimatised. Do not install boards if they are oversized.

On-Site Cutting

End grain on most softwood timber species absorbs water 250 times more rapidly than other wood surfaces and must therefore be protected. In the Brookridge range, pressure treated products that are drilled or cut on site must be sealed with a concentrated end seal product which is available from Brookridge Timber Ltd. For untreated Cedar, Larch and other species we recommend that all ends should be sealed using a cut end preserver also available from Brookridge Timber Ltd.

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Fixing Brookridge Timber Cladding

Timber Cladding should be installed on a pressure treated backing structure as specified by your designer/architect to allow air flow behind the facade (see document “Support for Timber Cladding” for guidance).

- Each individual cladding board must be fixed independently to allow boards to move without faceting other boards
- Boards over 100mm in width should not be secret fixed
- Timber Cladding should be fixed so vegetation does not come into contact with it
- Timber Cladding should be installed to a minimum of 200mm above ground level
- Detailing and flashing must direct water away from the building
- Fixings must be stainless steel grade 304
- Fixings must have a flat head which when installed shouldn’t flush with the face of the timber cladding. Do not use lost or small head fixings.
- If using screws pre-drilling is recommended
- If using nails annular ring shank are recommended
- All fixings should be at least 20mm from the end of the board and 15mm from the edge
- Any fixings towards the end of the boards should be pre-drilled
- When fixing, leave gaps between boards and the perimeter of the facade to allow for expansion.

This information is general advice and not intended as a comprehensive guide. Please speak to your professional cladding installer/architect/local authority for fixing details relevant to your particular development.

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