









## Fixing cladding

### Softwood

- Use stainless steel annular ring shank nails (essential for high tannin species or those installed 'green')
- The nail penetration into the batten is generally twice the thickness of the board being fixed
- Punch the nail slightly below the wood's surface
- Use double fixings for boards over 125mm wide
- Make sure that butt joints always meet on sufficient batten support width

### Hardwood

- Use counter-sunk stainless steel screws
- Slight over-sizing of the screw holes will allow for any movement in the wood and prevent splits
- Where 'green' wood is used, it may be necessary to fit washers to the screws to maintain the fixing security.

Some modified timbers, such as Accoya™, are acidic and require high quality stainless steel fixings.

## Finishes

Use a specialist water-based micro-porous coating, opaque or semi-translucent.

Coatings adhere better to sawn than planed boards.

Re-coating before failure of the system means you don't have to spend a lot of time preparing the surface.

Pre-finished boards are widely available.

## Fire compliance

### Exterior cladding

Generally, timber cladding is suitable for buildings of 18m or lower. No combustible materials are permitted for cladding on buildings over 18m high.

### Interior cladding

Generally, this should be fire treated to Euroclass C-s3, d2.

Refer to

- Approved Document Part B (Fire Safety) vols 1 & 2 and Amendments; and
- Approved Document 7 (Material and Workmanship) and Amendment.

These can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications).



### Further information and advice

#### British Standards

- BS 8605-1:2015 Method of specification
- BS 8605-2:2015 Code of practice for design and installation
- BS 1183-3 Timber for workmanship in joinery
- BS 8417:2014 Preservation of timber
- BS EN 350-1,2 Durability of wood and wood-based products
- BS EN 14915 Solid wood paneling and cladding
- BS EN 15146 Solid softwood paneling and cladding. Machined profiles without tongue and groove
- Approved Document Part B (Fire Safety) vols 1 & 2 & Amendments
- Approved Document 7 (Material and Workmanship) & Amendment

See Cladding resources on Wood Campus

See Cladding resources on Timber Decking and Cladding Association website [www.tdca.org.uk](http://www.tdca.org.uk)

## Sustainable timber

Timber is the most sustainable mainstream building product. It is naturally renewable. Over 90% of timber used in UK construction comes from Europe, where more trees are grown than harvested (*source: TTF Statistical Review 2016*).

Softwood and temperate hardwood forests in Scandinavia, Europe, Canada and North America are stable or growing. Growing forests act as carbon sinks; wood products act as carbon stores.

Ask for PEFC or FSC Chain of Custody certification.

See Wood Campus RIBA CPD module *Procuring Sustainable Timber* for more on timber certification and sustainability and government requirements.



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