

Imported, Canadian Western Red Cedar is used for its rich range of colours, stability (resistance to warping) and its durability, which gives it a long working life.

iWood most commonly supplies cedar machined to external cladding profiles, or as planed slats to make attractive garden fencing or separators.

TRADA suggests Cedar is suitable for decking, but we'd advise against this as it's quite a soft timber and can be marked relatively easily by furniture and impacts.

iWood Timber Specification Sheet

Canadian Western Red Cedar (*Thuja Plicata*)



Appearance and Colour



Canadian Cedar has a rich spectrum of colours within the same batch from the same tree, ranging from pale yellows, through to deep reddish-browns and even purples.

If left untreated outdoors it will turn silver grey within 12 to 24 months as the sun's ultraviolet rays bleach it. Canadian Cedar's knot content is very low, giving a very 'clean' look.

Durability



Canadian Cedar is classed as 'Durable', with a similar working lifespan to oak, but not as great as something like teak. Cedar has a strong resistance to rot and insect infestation due to its natural acidity.

Cedar Products and Uses

iWood offers Canadian Cedar in a range of products. Most commonly we provide a range of external claddings, including tongue and groove, shiplap and feather edge boarding, along with planed cedar slats for making fashionable partitions, as well as cedar cut to size or planed all round to your finished sizes for you to process further.

Treatment



Cedar is very stable and has little moisture movement. It therefore does not need sealing to stop moisture entering.

You'd only normally treat it with a UV protection oil, such as OSMO 420, to stop it from going silver-grey in the sun (like all timbers will). You'll need to re-apply every 12 to 18 months to keep the original colours for as long as possible.

Density and Weight

Compared to similarly durable timbers,



Cedar is not very dense and quite light.

450kg / m³ (Approx 9kg per square metre at 19mm thickness).

Moisture Content



Canadian Cedar generally has a low moisture content because its fibre saturation point is around 18 to 23%, which is comparable to some kiln dried timbers.

This means there is very little moisture movement in and out of the timber as humidity changes with the seasons, giving you a very stable timber with very little movement or warping.

Fixings

As Cedar is very acidic you should use fixings such as stainless steel or galvanised nails or screws which won't react and corrode.



Where Does Canadian Cedar Grow?



The Western Red Cedar that iWood imports is grown over a vast area including the North West of the USA extending up into Canada and even Alaska.

This area is known as the "Pacific Northwest".

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