

HOW TO INSTALL TIMBER CLADDING

A GENERAL GUIDE

Understanding the process of installing timber cladding will help with managing the project and ensuring everything runs smoothly. Here at NORclad, we've had over 40 years' of experience manufacturing and distributing a range of timber cladding species for many projects. We want to share as much of our product knowledge with you to help ensure you can get the most out of timber cladding.

GETTING STARTED

Picking a Timber Species

The first step in our timber cladding installation guide is to pick a timber species that is suited to the project. There are several characteristics to consider.



Colour



Grain



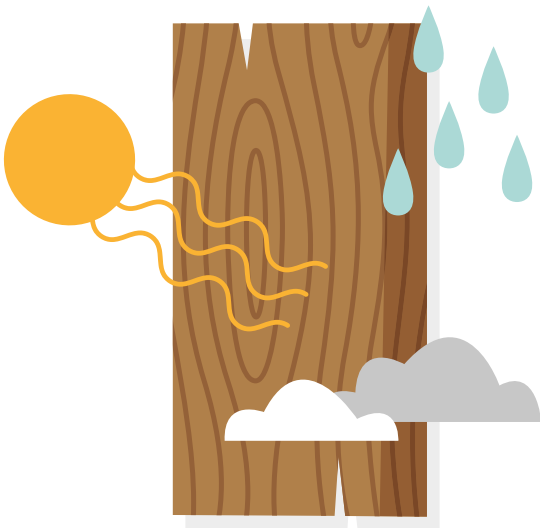
Longevity



Durability

Timber Treatment and Acclimatisation

Timber is a natural material and as such will respond to the environment. It is vital that the timber has fully acclimatised to its equilibrium moisture content before it is installed.



Cladding Profile

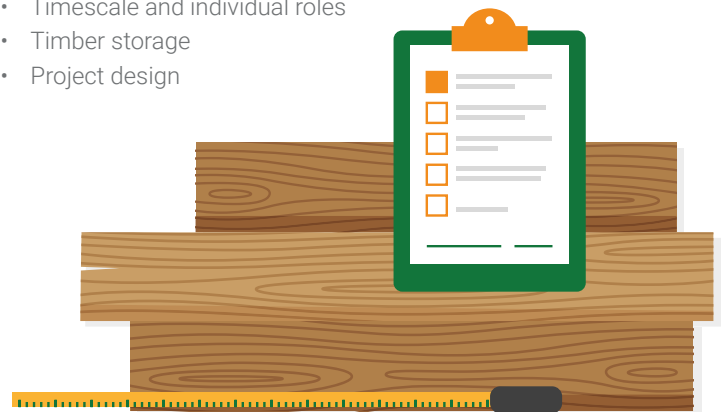
The cladding profile influences the way your cladding looks and behaves, as well as the installation process. All have their advantages and disadvantages, and some will be more suited to your project than others.



Project Management

There are several important things to consider when managing a project involving timber cladding:

- Measurement accuracy
- Timescale and individual roles
- Timber storage
- Project design



CLADDING INSTALLATION

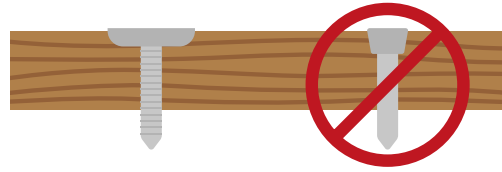
- ❗ **NORclad can only offer advice, supply and distribution, but do not install timber cladding. It is recommended that all works are carried out by a professional installer.**



Cladding boards should be stored individually and kept dry. Allow plenty of airflow around them so that they can find their moisture balance before being installed. This will greatly reduced the risk of discolouration and warping of the timber.

Fasteners / Fixing

- Use only Stainless Steel grade 304 fixings
- Use annular ring shank flat-headed nails
- Do not use small/lost headed fixings



Face Fix

- Nails through thickest part of profile
- Each board fixed independently
- For profiles over 100mm in width
- Leave a 3mm gap between tongue and groove boards
- When fixing end to end allow a 2-3mm gap



Secret Fix

- Single fix through bevel line
- For profiles under 100mm in width
- Leave a 3mm gap between tongue and groove boards
- First board of each elevation requires a Face Fix
- When fixing end to end allow a 2-3mm gap



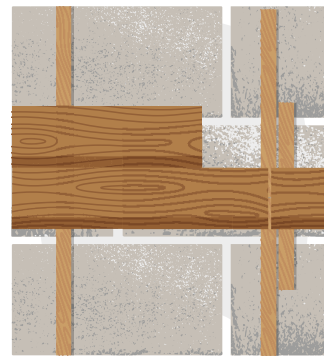
Wall Structures

External Wall

- Attach battens to wall
- Fix cladding to battens



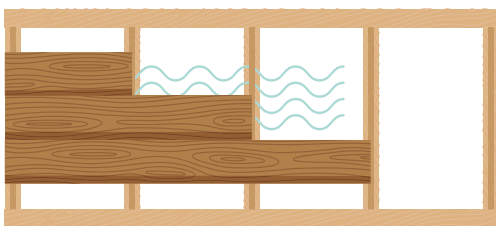
Using Battens



- Battens create a ventilation cavity that allows water and moisture that could penetrate the cladding somewhere to escape to.
- Use an additional length of batten to provide support for the junction between boards.
- The backing structure battens should be chamfered to direct water away from the building/structure.
- Timber cladding is usually designed for horizontal use. Only certain profiles are favoured for vertical installation. When installing vertical cladding, use counter-battens behind your horizontal battens to create a cavity for airflow through which water and moisture can escape.

Timber Frame Wall

- Attach battens to studs
- Fix cladding to battens
- Allow breather membrane for airflow

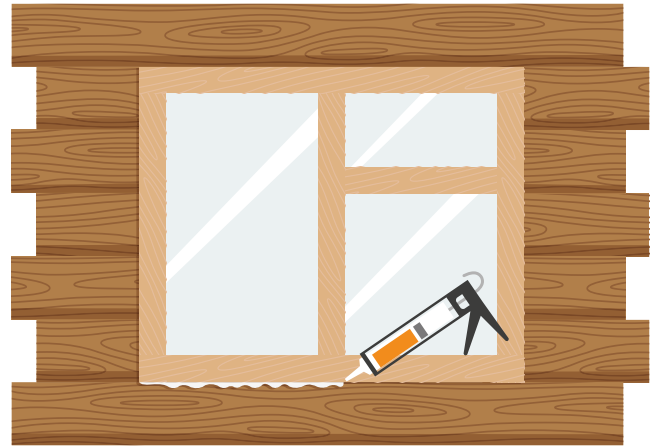


- ❗ **Taking the time to understand the primary wall structure and nature of the building can ensure that any moisture and water vapour issues are dealt with effectively, and therefore do not impact the cladding. Your architect and/or professional installer should be involved.**

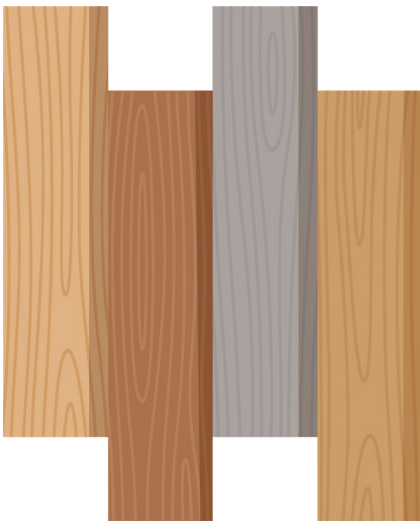
Wall Features

Wall features include windows, doors, corners and flashing. There are several important things to consider:

- Ensure they sit well with your chosen cladding
- Good drip and cill detailing by your architect and/or professional installer should ensure effective water dispersion and minimise gaps for water and dirt to enter
- Use high performance caulk to seal all gaps as advised by your professional installer
- Where the end grain of a board is present, a gap of at least 8mm should be left to reduce the chance of water sitting against it



MAINTENANCE & PROTECTION



Treat and Protect

Internal cladding is most likely to be dry, and may not be vulnerable to decay or drip. However, external cladding is open to the elements and so ensuring good architectural design and detailing along with adequate treatment and protection for the species is crucial.

If timber cladding is treated, protected and installed properly, it can stand the test of time. It is certainly worth ensuring you know how to treat and look after the timber so it is well maintained.

Some species weather over time and change colour as they age, particularly if they are uncoated, so bear this in mind when thinking about how you want your building to look in years to come.

- ① **If cladding is to be protected, it is recommended this is done through a factory controlled environment, before it is fitted.**

Let's Get Started!

We hope this guide has helped demonstrate the general process for installing timber cladding. Every project is different, so it's important to plan ahead with your contractors to ensure that you will get the best from your cladding.

For more information, head to www.norclad.co.uk.

For help bringing your visions to life, make sure you get in touch with us at NORclad and let us show you all that's possible with timber cladding.



NORclad[®]
TOTAL CLADDING SOLUTIONS



BEST SELLING CLADDING



NORclad Brunnea Redwood Timber Cladding

This Redwood is a softwood which we then treat with our Brunnea treatment adding a preservative and a beautiful pigment.

- Typical lengths from 2.1m - 4.8m plus
- Available in 3 live knot grades (A+, A, B)
- PEFC / FSC Certified
- Imported from Scandinavia



NORclad Brunnea Western Red Cedar Timber Cladding

Canadian Western Red Cedar is a durable softwood. Treated with NORclad Brunnea to add protection and a pigment which develops over time.

- Many boards supplied are clear of knots
- Available in 2 live knot grades
- PEFC Certified
- Imported from Canada



Imported Siberian Larch Timber Cladding

Siberian Larch is a durable specie with the sapwood omitted. It is a softwood with a colour that ranges from a light straw yellow to a gold/brown.

- Typical 4.0m lengths
- Available in 3 live knot grades (A+, A, B)
- FSC Certified
- Imported from Russia



Canadian Western Red Cedar Timber Cladding

Cedar timber will colour down a silver/grey colour if left unprotected as soon as it is installed. It's naturally durable, stable and light weight.

- Many boards supplied are clear of knots
- Available in 2 live knot grades
- PEFC Certified
- Imported from Canada

To discuss the cladding that will work best for your project and requirements, please get in touch today and we will be more than happy to talk you through your options.