

## External Timber Cladding Installation Instructions. SertiWOOD® Viking, Thermowood, DragonWOOD and Tongue and Groove Cedar.

### 1. Ordering your cladding

Wood is a natural material, and no two pieces are the same. Each has its own rich variation of texture, grain, knots, colour and hue. Knots, grain exist as part of the natural growth of a tree, and feature in the SertiWOOD® Viking, Thermowood Redwood, DragonWOOD range. Do not consider them a defect you would also see some slight surface checks which do not affect the durability or performance of the cladding, we believe they add to the unique beauty of using wood. When looking at a cladding board there are 2 sides an A face i.e. visual side and B as the back-reverse non visual side. Western Red Cedar will tend to have fewer knots.

When ordering cladding always allow at least 10 to 15 percent more material for trim or crosscutting loss especially when cladding diagonal or chevron pattern details. Calculate the total area to be covered, and add between 10 to 15 percent more for waste. If you are cladding in standard conventional horizontal or vertical pattern details you expect less waste as our unique end matching allows boards to be butt jointed together with a solid tongue and groove on the ends giving you a stronger and cleaner joint. Our complete range of External SertiWOOD® Viking range of similar profiles can all be mixed to give different colours shades tones and surface finishes adding to the beauty of the walls, soffits or facias.

If the pack coverage has not been given always base your calculation for the amount of cladding on the actual laid measure size, and not the overall board size. It's important to order cladding in similar batches to ensure consistency of the finishing tones, profiles etc.

### 2. Transporting your cladding

Timber cladding must be protected and handled with care to prevent any damage while in transit.

Care must be taken to protect it from physical damage, moisture and direct sunlight prior to installation.

If there is a separating layer between the boards, for example a plastic layer, keep this in place to avoid the cladding boards sticking together during storage or transportation.

**BS 8605-2014**  
**BS 1186-3**  
**BS EN 942**  
**WPA Commodity Specification C6**

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### 3. Storing your cladding

Ensure the external plastic covering has not been damaged and the cladding has not been compromised. If the plastic is damaged, be sure to repair the packaging to protect the cladding from the elements.

If the cladding is to be stored outside, ensure the cladding is protected on all four sides to protect against damage from moisture and UV sunlight damage.

Never store cladding in direct contact with the ground. It must be at least 150mm above the ground, with an air gap.

If there is visible moisture or dampness in the packaging, you should immediately open the plastic packaging to ensure that there is adequate ventilation to avoid blue staining and mould in the bundles. (the only exception to this is Western Red Cedar is supplied as Air Dry and may have moisture evident in the packaging)

### 4. Installing your cladding – Good Practices

We strongly recommend that qualified professionals install our cladding products, especially on public buildings.

Before installation, allow the cladding to acclimatise away from direct sunlight, moisture or rain.

#### Membranes

Use membranes on all rainscreen cladding. Normal, BBA-approved breathable membranes should be used on closed rainscreen cladding.

#### Insect mesh

Install insect mesh around all open cavities.



## Timber cladding support battens

All battens should be treated to UC3, with all cut ends treated on site.

Vertical cladding must be supported with 45 x 45mm treated battens, with a minimum 15-degree slope. Horizontal battens should be a minimum of 38 x 50mm.

The recommended spacing of battens is 450mm centres, and should not exceed 600mm centres. Be sure to leave sufficient space behind the cladding for ventilation and drainage.

## Fixings

Use stainless steel fixings type 304, or 316 when installing the cladding near coastal areas.

For nails, annular ring shanks should be used. A minimum of 50mm is needed for 16-20mm-thick board, for the nail length to achieve a point-side penetration of 2.5 x the thickness of the cladding board into the batten.

A minimum of two face fixings are required for DragonWOOD, Thermowood and Western Red Cedar PTGV cladding, and one fixing for the SertiWOOD Viking cladding on the special located groove close to the tongue. All Starter boards need 2 face fixings.

Fix nails or screws approximately 20mm from the end and edge. Pre-drilling is recommended to avoid splitting the boards.

Do not screw the fix through the tongue or groove at an angle. All fixings should lay flush with the surface of the cladding.

Fix the cladding ideally at 450mm maximum centres.

## Board configuration and layout

Ensure all newly cut edges and sides are sealed prior to installation, including any fixing holes. Use the appropriate SertiWOOD end Grain Sealer and SertiWOOD touch up paint matching the cladding if pre-painted or need to paint any other sections corners reveals etc to match your cladding.

Cladding should be installed at least 250mm above ground or DPC level.

For horizontal rainscreens, the grooves need to be at the bottom to minimise the collection of water or pollutants.

Leave a gap of at least 2mm around the boards to allow for expansion. Larger gaps may be left for differential movement, especially in timber frame constructions.

Allow between 6mm and 10mm for drainage gaps on corner profiles, ends, sides or other materials. Check the compatibility of the cladding with other materials in the construction, to avoid or minimise corrosion and staining.

## 5. Maintenance

All factory finished products need at least annual maintenance and basic care. This includes cleaning surfaces of pollutants and repairing any damage or degradation. Use water to wash them, and do not pressure wash or flood the cladding, in line with the warranty conditions.



### Timber Focus Ltd

UK Head Office:  
3000 Aviator Way  
Manchester Business Park  
Manchester  
M22 5TG

**Tel:** 0161 504 0011

**Email:** Sales@timberfocus.com

**Web:** www.timberfocus.com

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