

Siberian Larch [SILA] Cladding

Siberian Larch (SILA) is the cladding of choice for many architects, contractors and self-builders, due to the fact that it is extremely versatile - being suitable for most external timber cladding applications - has excellent durability properties and displays attractive figuring.

Appearance

SILA boards come in a warm mix of colours, from light reddish brown through to golden browns. When weathered the colour changes to a muted grey tone. With clearly marked annual growth rings, straight grain and relatively few knots the overall look displays attractive figuring with a contemporary look. Siberian Larch is imported to the UK in board form. Depending on which mill it came from it will have variety of surface finishes. To avoid an unsightly surface finish, Russwood skim the face of each board to provide a clean, unblemished fine-sawn finish.

Durability

For external cladding purposes, Siberian Larch is a naturally durable timber (Class 3 according to BS EN 350-2) due to a combination of factors; The presence of tannins in the wood create a high resistance to decay and rot, making Siberian Larch one of the toughest and most durable softwoods. High density means that it is more difficult for decaying organisms to penetrate the wood. With a lifespan of 50 -100 years when correctly detailed and subject to general outdoor exposure.

Stability

The tightness of the growth rings and the high proportion of late wood enables a smoother machine finish and enhanced dimensional stability. Russwood's SILA is kiln-dried to approximately 16-18% (+/-2%). This moisture level is retained until delivery to site and your cladding can then be installed immediately upon delivery. Enhanced performance of dimensional stability can be achieved by using narrower widths, for example 120mm, and 95mm.

Density

Due to its high percentage of heartwood (75-90%) and a minimum of sapwood (we guarantee that at least one face will be sap free) SILA is an extremely dense timber, classified by BS EN 350-2 as approximately 628 Kg/m³ at a moisture content of approximately 18%. As such, it is not easily damaged and therefore is ideal for highly exposed elevations.

Coating suitability

Optimal performance is always achieved with sawn faced or Microtex-finishes. SILA can be factory coated in SiOO:X, a breakthrough water based silicone technology. SiOO:X creates a weathered appearance at an accelerated rate. Following application, all areas, regardless of protection and exposure, take on consistent tone which provides a solution to differential weathering whilst strengthening the timber's surface and creating a water repellent layer.

Fixings

How timber is fixed is fundamental to its long term performance in terms of both appearance and durability. We offer a range of fixings and systems to make cladding look better and last longer. These systems can be written into the NBS H21 specification.

Surface Finishes

Wire Brushing - To create this effect, wire brushes are used to pull out the softer spring wood, exposing the harder summer wood, thus accentuating the grain and creating a beautifully textured surface.
Skimming - To avoid an unsightly surface finish, we skim the face of each board to provide a clean, unblemished fine-sawn finish.
Planed - Boards are run through our planing mill to create a smooth, dressed finish.

Microtex® - Is a uniform, consistently fibrous surface finish. This provides enhanced coating performance as the increased surface area of the cladding face enables enhanced adhesion properties.

RUSSWOOD SILA A/B® SPECIFICATION

- Graded to BS1186-3 Part 4 Class 1: each board is practically centre free
- One face will be sap free
- Tight live knots have a maximum 25mm diameter
- Kiln-dried to moisture content of approximately 16 – 18%
- Lengths up to 6.0m
- FSC®-certified product sourced from sustainable forests, Russwood certification no - FSC-C017490

Recommended profiles

Please note we have only listed the most popular profiles for Siberian Larch but there may be others available.

RW006



RW014



RW061



RW064



RW119

