

Real Cedar



WESTERN RED CEDAR [Thuja Plicata]

The Natural Choice for Beauty and Performance

Why Western Red Cedar

Did you ever wonder why so many other products want to imitate Western Red Cedar? Western Red Cedar (*Thuja Plicata* in Latin) combines form and function like no other timber or man-made material. Do not get misled by claims of other species using “cedar” in their name. Only Western Red Cedar has the unique, natural performance characteristics and exceptional beauty that bring warmth, character and longevity to homes and commercial buildings around the world. It is this bundle of properties that has made “Cedar” the timber of choice for discerning architects, builders and homeowners around the world.

Western Red Cedar is renowned for its naturally occurring resistance to moisture, decay and insect damage. Its natural durability, dimensional stability and exceptional beauty make it ideal for a wide variety of exterior and interior uses. It is lightweight and easy to handle and install for both the professional and do-it-yourselfer. Western Red Cedar offers enormous versatility. You are not limited by standard colours or styles, with Western Red Cedar, the only limitation is your imagination.

When specifying materials for your next project, don't be disappointed, insist on Real Cedar. Insist on Western Red Cedar and include its Latin name in your specification.



Heritage

Western Red Cedar's popularity dates back thousands of years to the Native Americans who first settled the Pacific Coast region of North America. Its versatility made the trees essential to Native peoples prompting them to revere it as a central part of their life. Western Red Cedar became known to them as the "Tree of Life".

Native craftsmen and artists found uses for each part of the Cedar tree. Craftsmen carved canoes, totem poles, storage boxes and ceremonial masks from the heartwood. Others wove the inner bark into mats, baskets and water repellent clothing, shaped the branches into ropes and fashioned the roots into baskets and cords.

This heritage continues today and is a testament to the quality and longevity of Western Red Cedar, a heritage that is unmatched by other building materials. As a buyer of Western Red Cedar, this is your assurance that Western Red Cedar will stand the test of time.



ENVIRONMENT

Western Red Cedar is the ultimate green building material. It is responsibly and sustainably harvested in the publicly managed forests of British Columbia, Canada. The province has exceeded United Nations guidelines by setting aside more than 12% of its land base as parkland. Less than 1/3 of 1% of BC's Cedar growing stock volume is harvested each year. For each tree harvested, three are replanted. The fact is, there are more forests in North America today than there were 100 years ago. These young forests are excellent carbon sinks. They also release oxygen back into the atmosphere contributing to a healthier environment.

All producers are in the process or have achieved certification under one or more independent third party certification system (CSA, SFI or FSC).

Timber, and Western Red Cedar specifically, has the least impact on the environment throughout its life cycle. Western Red Cedar requires significantly less energy to produce than other materials and unlike man-made alternatives, Western Red Cedar is biodegradable. Timber has 400 times better insulation (R) value than steel, 2000 times that of aluminium, 8 times that of concrete. Make the right choice for your environment, build green with Western Red Cedar.





Appearance, durability, insulation value and dimensional stability are Western Red Cedar's primary advantages as exterior cladding. Available in a wide range of standard and custom profiles, it is suitable for any variety of architecture and is versatile enough to be used in residential, commercial or industrial structures. Properly finished (ideally in a factory setting), Cedar cladding will offer years of low maintenance performance.

Bevel cladding (also known as clapboard) is the most widely used cedar siding type. It is installed horizontally and gives an attractive shadow line that varies with the thickness of siding selected. Clear bevel grades offer a premium quality appearance. Knotty bevel grades offer warmth and casual charm, ideal for homes, cottages, club-houses, and applications where a rustic appearance is desired.

cladding possibilities



Lap claddings are normally supplied in a variety of patterns.

Channel is a popular type of lap siding and is used when a rustic appearance is desired. A versatile cladding, it can be installed vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. In channel, the profile of each board overlaps that of the board next to it creating a channel that gives shadow line effects, provides excellent weather protection and allows for dimensional movement.

Board and batten designs use wide clear or knotty boards spaced apart with narrower battens covering the joints. Various combinations of different widths are used to create different looks suitable for large or small scale applications.

Western Red Cedar is easily machined, as a result, custom profiles are often produced to meet the exact specification of an architect or builder. With Cedar, you are only limited by your imagination.





Western Red Cedar decks are a popular way to extend the living space to the outdoors, integrating home and landscape and giving a contemporary look to a traditionally styled home. Even for those living in flats, a Cedar deck can be a calming oasis in the middle of a bustling city. Western Red Cedar is prized for decking because of the wood's pleasing appearance, natural durability and dimensional stability. Other timber decking often requires chemicals to protect them from decay and insect attack but western red cedar is one of the few woods with its own "grown-in-the wood" preservative. It shrinks and swells much less than other timber, stays flat and straight and resists checking. It is free of pitch and resins making it an excellent base for protective coatings.

Unlike many other timber species, Western Red Cedar is a renewable material, harvested from sustainably managed forests. Plastic composite decking materials require much larger amounts of energy to produce.

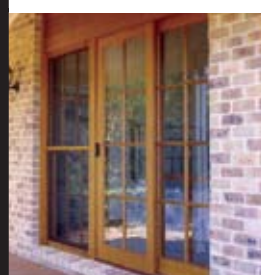
decking possibilities



A deck constructed with Western Red Cedar is enjoyable even in the warmest time of the year. While decks made of plastic or composites can become unbearable in the summer heat, Western Red Cedar's low density ensures a cool comfortable surface. Western Red Cedar decks are firm but resilient underfoot, not hard and unyielding as many other materials.

Decks can be accessorized with a variety of pre-cut Western Red Cedar handrails, balusters, post caps, fencing, lattice and other decorative items. New advancements in coating technologies provide many years of protection against the sun's harmful rays ensuring that the beauty of Cedar will last. Make your next deck, a Western Red Cedar deck.





Why Western Red Cedar windows and doors? They are the ultimate in style, versatility and performance.

Western Red Cedar windows and doors suit the aesthetic requirements of any project. They extend a greater choice of type, colour and style than those made of other materials. PVC and Aluminium are available only in solid colours and imitation wood grain which is foil glued onto a surface. These products are mass-produced in limited variations.

A further appeal of Western Red Cedar is the ease with which it's appearance may be changed. A timber window may be embellished with a translucent stain one day and an opaque gloss or another colour, the next. Similarly a change of fasteners and fittings, whether due to fashion or increased security, is considerably easier with timber windows.

windows & doors **possibilities**



Western Red Cedar is very stable, ensuring windows and doors will not twist or warp. It is a superior thermal insulator than alternative material enhancing your comfort and the enjoyment of your home. In the case of PVC windows, for instance, metal often has to be included in the framing to provide strength and rigidity. Unless appropriate steps are taken, this can promote significant heat loss.

Finally, consider long term performance. Western Red Cedar's natural durability imparts protection against rot and insect attack which ensures windows and doors will have a lengthy service life.



Western Red Cedar paneling and mouldings enhance the beauty and ambience of any home – inside and out.

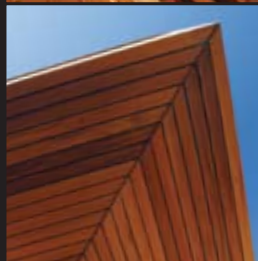
Western Red Cedar is the preferred choice for this use because of its fine, warm grain, ease of workability, stability and thermal/insulating properties. Its ability to dampen vibrations and reduce or confine noise makes it particularly effective for use as interior paneling. Its low thermal conductivity, lack of pitch, fine grain and distinctive aroma makes Cedar superior to other timber or man made materials for a variety of uses including decorative trim, saunas, soffits and cladding.

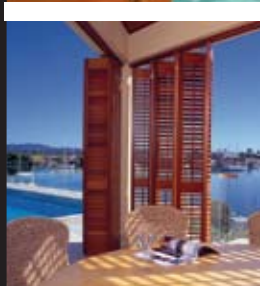
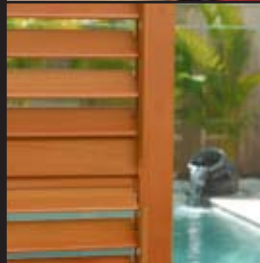
Cedar paneling can be installed horizontally, vertically or a mixture of both. The joints between adjoining pieces are usually v-shaped but flush jointed, reveal and radius joints are also available. The different joints and surface textures in tongue and groove siding combine to provide a range of shadow line effects that enhance the product's versatility.

paneling & moulding **possibilities**



Western Red Cedar paneling is available in Clear or Knotty grade categories. Clear grades, typically supplied with a smooth finish, are suitable for a more formal, elegant appearance, particularly when pieces are smooth faced. Knotty grades are supplied with a rough or smooth texture and are popular for their smart, casual look. Manufacturers of Western Red Cedar paneling and mouldings offer a wide variety of patterns, many of which are custom produced to suit specific design requirements. Add the distinctive beauty and style of Western Red Cedar to your next project.





Western Red Cedar is the ideal timber for blinds and shutters. Not only does it offer a beautiful look, Cedar's natural properties ensure superior performance to alternative materials.

Blinds allow for excellent airflow into and throughout your rooms. They are an attractive and practical window treatment that enhances the look and feel of your home or building. Western Red Cedar is the premium species for timber blinds. Blinds that are custom-made from Western Red Cedar are durable and very stable in hot or moist conditions. Cedar blinds provide insulation from the harsh summer sun, and retain the heat in winter. Due to its superior performance characteristics, Cedar blinds can be produced thinner than other timber blinds, offering greater visibility and a neater appearance when retracted.

blinds & shutters **possibilities**



Whether you seek a contemporary or classic look, Western Red Cedar shutters enrich any space with warmth and style. In addition to its use as window coverings, Cedar shutters work exceptionally well as room dividers or door panels due to the stability of the species. As with blinds, Cedar shutters enhance the comfort of your home by insulating against summer heat and winter cold. Western Red Cedar is remarkably stable, ensuring your shutters won't split or warp. It is fine grained and provides a smooth finish. Cedar readily accepts lacquer, varnish or stains and offers excellent colour retention when sealed (coated).

There is a growing trend for the addition of Cedar sun barriers. These offer even greater light control flexibility and a unique and distinctive look that will enhance the appeal of any home.

If you're looking to enhance the appeal and comfort of your home, consider adding Western Red Cedar blinds, shutters or sun barriers.



There are a number of other standard Western Red Cedar products available. Western Red Cedar trimboards are the natural complement to Western Red Cedar cladding in applications such as trim and fascia. Timbers are available in sizes from 4"x4" up to 12"x12" and even larger on a custom basis. Western Red Cedar timbers are used in both structural and decorative applications.

Due to its distinctive appearance and highly desirable natural characteristics, Western Red Cedar is used to produce many other unique products. These include, but are not limited to, post & beam homes, greenhouses, conservatories, sheds, playhouses, playground sets, fences, gates, gazebos, arbors, landscape features, outdoor furniture, birds houses and any other application where natural beauty, longevity and performance are desired. Western Red Cedar is used in the construction of canoes, boats and even surf boards.

other possibilities



While some of these are for the hobbyist, many are produced commercially. Specialty manufacturers of Western Red Cedar even offer easy to install kits for a large variety of end uses.

Western Red Cedar is superior to other timber species in the manufacture of shake and shingle roofing because of its lightweight, dimensional stability, straight grain, and natural durability.

For more information about these products and to source supply, visit www.wrcea.org.



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

WESTERN RED CEDAR (Thuja Plicata Donn ex D. Don)

Western Red Cedar is a common tree in Pacific Northwest Coastal and Interior rainforests of British Columbia, Canada. It is a large tree, up to 60 metres tall when mature and 2.5 metres in diameter. It is rarely found in pure stands and is often mixed with Douglas-fir, Sitka spruce, black cottonwood and red alder. The tree is one of the longest lived and most decay- and insect-resistant softwood species in North America.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

DENSITY	Green	528 - 544
	Air Dry	370 - 385
SPECIFIC GRAVITY	Standard	0.33
HARDNESS	Side	1470
	End	3000
MOE (Mpa)	Green	7240
	Air Dry	8270
MOR (Mpa)	Green	36.5
	Air Dry	53.8
COMPRESSION PARALLEL (Mpa)	Air Dry	33.9
COMPRESSION PERPENDICULAR (Mpa)	Air Dry	3.43
SHEAR (Mpa)	Air Dry	5.58
SHRINKAGE	Radial (OD)	2.1%
	Tangential (OD)	4.5%
	Volumetric (OD)	7.9%
	Volumetric (AD)	4.9%
	Tang/Rad ratio	2.1
DURABILITY	Heartwood	Durable
RECOMMENDED FASTENER TYPE	Corrosion resistant (stainless steel preferred).	



Canada Wood
Produits de bois canadien



Forestry
Innovation
Investment Ltd

WESTERN RED
CEDAR EXPORT
ASSOCIATION



Western Red Cedar Export Association

Suite 1501 - 700 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6C 1G8

Tel: +1 604 684 0266 Fax: +1 604 687 4930 Email: info@wrcea.org

For more information and to locate a supplier near you visit www.wrcea.org