





WESTERN RED  
CEDAR EXPORT  
ASSOCIATION



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Canada Wood  
Produits de bois canadien

WESTERN RED  
**CEDAR**  
WINDOWS & DOORS



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## WESTERN RED CEDAR – A RENEWABLE & SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE

### CERTIFIED SUSTAINABLE AND LEGAL

British Columbia is a leader in third-party sustainable forest management certification. Suppliers of Western Red Cedar are committed to high environmental standards, upholding harvesting practices that are recognized as legal and sustainable.

There are three Certification processes in use in BC; Canadian Standards Association's Sustainable Forest Management Standard (CSA); Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI); Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). All involve independent, qualified third-party audits that measure the company's planning, practices, systems and performance against predetermined standards.

These three certification processes all ensure that forest management promotes sustainability. They all examine how operations address a range of forest values such as biological diversity, wildlife habitat, soils and water resources. They all ensure that harvest areas are reforested, that laws are complied with, and that there is no unauthorized or illegal logging.

Customers of BC-based companies have the added confidence of knowing that certification is not a substitute for government regulation but rather an added assurance. A recent independent review found that BC is among the top of the 38 jurisdictions studied. These policies are backed by enforcement and the independent Forest Practices Board, which monitors both industry and government actions.

### HARVESTS

Less than 1% of BC's Cedar growing stock volume is harvested each year, with three quarters of the harvest originating from the coastal forest areas. Clearcut harvesting is now being phased out on the BC coast. A system called variable retention, which requires retaining enough trees, snags and coarse woody debris to keep the forest structure intact, is now widely practiced. The degree of retention depends on the designated zoning of the forest. For zones in which the emphasis is on conserving old-growth, most of the trees will be retained. This may dictate leaving groups of trees or even single trees untouched.

### GROWTH AND REGENERATION

Artificial regeneration of Western Red Cedar began in British Columbia in the late 1960s in association with other species. BC is aggressively replanting Cedar. An average of approximately 8 million seedlings are planted each year on the coast which represents about 15% of total coastal planting. The result is expected to be an increase in Cedar available for harvest in 70-plus years.

Old-growth remains the larger portion of BC's timber, but second-growth Red Cedar is on a steady gain. This second-growth is already being harvested for the high value wood it produces.



## WINDOWS & DOORS: WESTERN RED CEDAR IS THE RIGHT CHOICE

Western Red Cedar windows and doors provide you with a timeless design that is functional and attractive. Whether stained to bring out the warm earthy tones, or painted to suit your decor and style, Western Red Cedar windows and doors will match or complement most architectural styles from traditional to modern contemporary designs. Not only is Western Red Cedar a beautiful timber with a remarkably fine and stable grain structure, it will not warp or twist, ensuring years of reliable operation from your windows and doors.

### NATURAL BEAUTY

The colour variation of the grain is Western Red Cedar's most distinguishing feature and makes it highly sought after as a material for feature joinery. The fusion of honey-beige to deep browns and reds within a single piece of Cedar, is what makes this wood dramatic and unique.

### DIMENSIONAL STABILITY

Western Red Cedar is a hard-wearing softwood, not subject to warping or twisting. Its dimensional stability is achieved due to low absorption of water as a result of high extractive content blocking absorption sites. A low wood density and low shrinkage factor make Cedar the perfect timber candidate under almost any climatic conditions.

### FLAME SPREAD RATING

The flame-spread rating of Western Red Cedar is 67 to 73 (Class II rating) and the smoke developed classification is 98. Both of these are used to regulate the use of materials where potential to generate smoke or smoke control movement is important. Due to its low flame-spread rating, it will perform better than most dense softwoods which have flame-spread ratings around 100. Western Red Cedar has a flame spreading rate and a smoke-developed classification that are considerably below the maximum limits set by most building codes.

### RESISTANCE TO DECAY

Western Red Cedar heartwood is renowned for its high durability. It has built in natural preservatives that provide resistance to borers, termites, rot and fungus growth. This unique property is attributed to the presence of extractives, mainly the thujaplicins, and to a lesser extent, the water-soluble phenolics which are toxic to a number of wood rotting fungi. Western Red Cedar has a durability Class 2 in Australia and Europe, the highest category for durability of any of the softwoods listed.



## WHY TIMBER WINDOWS & DOORS?

### THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Western Red Cedar windows and doors are environmentally preferred because timber is a much more energy efficient product. Alternative choices such as PVC and Aluminum consume far more energy in their production. Not only does timber consume less energy, it comes from a renewable resource unlike the alternatives.

### GREATER VERSATILITY

Timber windows and doors extend a greater choice of type and style than those made of other materials. PVC and Aluminum are mass-produced in limited variations. The cross sectional profile of Cedar varies as only nature orchestrates. The versatility of Cedar spawns innovation and originality.

### SUPERIOR THERMAL INSULATOR

Western Red Cedar is a far superior thermal insulator than any other material used to manufacture windows and doors. On larger section 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 a 'thermal bridge', increasing heat loss.

### STUNNING BEAUTY

Timber windows and doors manufactured with Western Red Cedar suit the aesthetic requirements of any project. The alternative materials are available only in solid colours (powder-coated metal or PVC) or imitation lumber which is foil glued onto a surface. It is impractical to change the appearance or colour of these facsimile products.

Western Red Cedar's natural colour palette is renowned and may be enhanced, if desired, with an almost infinite array of natural finishes or solid stains. A further appeal of this beautiful timber is the ease with which it may be changed. A timber window may be embellished with a translucent stain one day and an opaque gloss or another colour, the next.

### DURABILITY & PERFORMANCE

In the case of timber windows and doors, should a stay or fastener break it is simply a matter of replacement by screw to the timber. Also a change of fasteners and fittings, whether due to fashion or increased security, is considerably easier with timber windows.

Western Red Cedar's natural durability imparts protection against fungi and insect attack which ensures windows and doors will have a lengthy service life. It is for these reasons that Canadian First Nations Peoples used Cedar for masks, lodges and totem poles, many of which still exist today.

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