RESOURCE SHEET / 04

Timber species

Real timber photographs | Colour, grain and finishing

Two reference photographs per timber show colour and grain. These are supplier examples, not Cedarlite stock samples; appearance varies with the board, finish and lighting.

01 Iroko

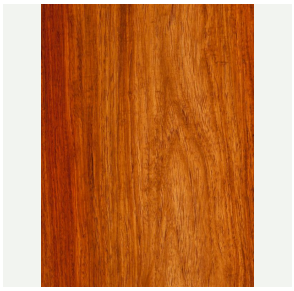




Character: A hardwood with warm brown tones and a distinctive natural grain. Colour can vary between boards and change as the timber ages.

Considerations: An option for joinery where a visible hardwood finish is desired. Choose a compatible exterior stain or oil if retaining the grain, or a suitable paint system. Confirm preparation and coating compatibility before application.

02 Rosewood





Character: A decorative hardwood option for joinery where the timber itself is a feature. Colour and grain depend on the species and stock supplied.

Considerations: Rosewood is a trade name used for different timbers. Confirm the exact species, suitability and a representative sample with Cedarlite before specifying. Agree the finish and expected colour variation before manufacture.

03 Accoya





Character: A modified timber produced through acetylation, a process that improves durability and dimensional stability. Accoya is a product name rather than a separate tree species.

Considerations: Well suited to windows and doors where controlling moisture-related movement matters. Can be painted or finished with a compatible stain or oil system. Follow Accoya guidance for coatings and hardware compatibility; improved stability does not remove the need for correct detailing and care.

RESOURCE SHEET / 04

Cedar & treated pine

Timber appearance and practical selection notes

04 Yellow cedar





Character: Alaskan yellow cedar has a pale yellow colour and a fine, even texture. Its relatively consistent appearance suits a restrained timber finish.

Considerations: Can be specified for a painted finish or a compatible stain or oil that shows the grain. Test the selected coating on a sample, as it will alter the natural colour. Confirm the grade and sizes required for the design.

05 Western red cedar





Character: A lightweight softwood with straight grain and natural colour variation from pale brown to deeper brown tones. Widely used for windows and joinery.

Considerations: Suitable for compatible paint, stain or oil systems. Its softer surface needs care during handling and use. Expect variation between boards when specifying a visible timber finish; approve a sample range rather than one colour.

06 H3.2 pine clears





Character: Clear-grade pine with a relatively clean appearance, preservative-treated to H3.2. "Clear" describes the timber grade, not a clear coating.

Considerations: An option for specified painted joinery components. H3.2 treatment is intended for appropriate above-ground exterior applications; it does not replace coatings, drainage or maintenance. Confirm component suitability, treatment and coating requirements with Cedarlite.

Pine photographs show H3.2-treated decking products as colour and grain references, not the exact clear joinery grade or profile supplied.

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Pine & other timbers

Timber appearance and practical selection notes

07 Finger-jointed pine





Character: Pine lengths joined with interlocking finger joints. Joints and changes in grain or colour may be visible before coating.

Considerations: Generally selected for a painted finish. Use only the grade, adhesive system and preservative treatment suitable for the intended exposure. Finger jointing alone does not establish exterior suitability. Cedarlite will confirm the appropriate product for the specified components.

Finger-jointed pine photographs show a panel and an H3-treated batten. These illustrate grain and joint appearance, not Cedarlite product profiles or verified H3.2 treatment.

08 Native & other timbers

Cedarlite can also supply native and other timbers, subject to availability, suitable grades and project requirements. Discuss your preferred species early so we can confirm sourcing, dimensions, lead times and suitability. For restoration work, a sample or photographs can help establish the desired match.

Finishing & natural variation

Timber varies naturally in colour, grain and texture. Review physical samples before confirming a visible finish. Cedarlite does not apply topcoats or a sealer coat to clear finishes; the contractor must apply the specified finishing system at installation. Refer to our Paint Specification and Care & Warranty sheets.

Rosewood examples are New Guinea rosewood (Pterocarpus indicus); confirm the species supplied for your project. The durability comparison follows on page 4.

RESOURCE SHEET / 04

Durability guide

Published timber ratings and treatment categories

These ratings describe resistance to biological decay, not hardness, movement, coating life or a guaranteed service life. Natural durability generally relates to heartwood; sapwood must not be assumed to have the same resistance. Confirm the exact species, grade and treatment supplied.

TIMBER	RATING / CATEGORY	BASIS & QUALIFICATION
Iroko	Class 1-2	JSC published rating. Natural durability; confirm supplied grade. [1]
Rosewood	Class 1 - very durable*	Lumberbank rating for Pterocarpus indicus only. Confirm this is the species supplied. [2]
Accoya	Class 1 - very durable	Modified timber: Accoya published tested durability rating, rather than natural untreated pine durability. [3]
Yellow cedar	Class 2	JSC rating for Alaskan yellow cedar (Callitropsis nootkatensis). [4]
Western red cedar	Class 2	JSC rating for Thuja plicata. Natural variation applies. [5]
H3.2 pine clears	H3.2 treated	Above-ground exterior treatment category; not equivalent to a natural durability Class 1 or 2. [6]
Finger-jointed pine	Treatment-dependent	Finger jointing is not a durability rating. Confirm treatment and exterior adhesive suitability; H3.2 applies only where specified and verified.
Native & other timbers	Species-dependent	Confirm the botanical species, heartwood/sapwood content and treatment before assigning a rating.

Reading the ratings: Values above reproduce the named supplier or manufacturer classifications. Test standards and exposure conditions can differ; do not treat them as a single service-life scale. Coating, detailing, drainage and maintenance remain essential. *The rosewood rating is conditional on species confirmation.

Sources / checked October 2026

[1] JSC Iroko information sheet v2.3 · [2] Lumberbank Rosewood
[3] Accoya Wood Information Guide · [4] JSC Yellow Cedar v2.0
[5] JSC Western Red Cedar v2.3 · [6] Specialty Timbers NZ: treatment categories