

# 1. What species of timber is being treated?



Commercial timbers include both Softwoods and Hardwoods. In the UK, the softwood species of Pine, Spruce, Douglas Fir and Larch are all widely used in the UK for construction, agricultural and landscaping applications.

The structure of softwood timber is key to good treatment. Performance is achieved through combination of treated sapwood and the natural durability of any heartwood present. Some softwood timber species are more receptive than others to timber treatment.

**All Bond Timber Gold Standard stakes and posts are manufactured from imported pine, a timber that is proven to be receptive to treatment making it ideal for in ground contact use.**

# 2. How well is the timber prepared prior to treatment?



All harvested timbers have a moisture content – a measurable level of water within the wood. Before any timber treatment is industrially applied, this moisture content should be at a specific level - usually to around a minimum of 28% - to allow the wood preservative to penetrate sufficiently during the pressurised treatment process. Also, if the timber is dried prior to treatment, it is much less likely to 'split' in service.

Processes such as mechanical incising will help to improve timber durability and extend the service life of more resistant timbers.

**At Bond Timber we use some kiln dried timbers and also air dry stocks down to around 25% moisture content prior to treatment. We also carefully manage our timber stocks, using the older and drier stocks first.**

In addition, to ensure a superior level of protection, all of our Gold Standard square sawn timbers have been mechanically incised to allow the treatment to permeate the timber to a deeper level, to achieve a longer lifespan. All Gold Standard timbers come with a 30 year guarantee as standard.



# 3. How effective is the wood preservative?



All modern wood preservatives have different performance credentials and different compositions. It's crucial that they are both effective and comply with regulatory controls relating to the environment and the health of humans and animals.

**For all outdoor timbers, including fencing, decking and cladding, we work with one of the most established global brands in wood protection – Tanalith® E.**



Providing proven long-term protection against wood decay and insect attack, Tanalith® E wood preservative is a unique combination of copper and organic biocides. When impregnated into the timber through a high-pressure process, Tanalith® E components bond with the wood structure and cannot easily be removed, helping to significantly extend its service life.

Because of the success of Tanalith® E, over the years the word 'Tanalised' has been used to refer to generic treated timber. Only timber treated with Tanalith® E is trademarked as Tanalised® Timber.



# 4. How professional is the treatment process?



The level of preservative treatment given to timber can be varied according to its eventual end use. Within the industry there are **Use Classes**, which define the typical end use of the timber and the appropriate level of preservative protection required. These 'Use Classes', defined in BS EN 335-1, are based on the potential threat to the timber from decay or insect attack in its eventual application.

## USE CLASS SUMMARY

- 1** INTERNAL, dry  
eg. upper floor joists
- 2** INTERNAL, risk of wetting  
eg. tiling battens
- 3.1** OUTDOORS, coated above ground  
eg. decorated cladding
- 3.2** OUTDOORS, uncoated above ground  
eg. fence rails
- 4** DIRECT SOIL OR FRESH WATER CONTACT  
eg. fence posts

On our site in Saltash, we have a purpose built timber treatment facility.

All treatments are carried out by our highly skilled and trained operatives who regularly undertake sampling to ensure a consistency of timber treatment penetration into the timbers.

The Gold Standard treatment is set at double the strength of standard Use Class 4, essential for ground contact, with the timber in the treatment tank for 5 hours rather than 1.5 hours. This means that the treatment penetrates further into the timber providing better protection from the elements and ultimately extending the desired service life for our Gold timbers.

## 5. Am I working with a credible supplier?



Bond Timber is independently accredited by the Wood Protection Association (WPA) for the **WPA Benchmark Quality Scheme for treated wood**. This accreditation confirms our treated timbers have been produced to conform with industry standards and are fit for purpose.

Through the WPA we are also one of the few companies in the UK recognised as an **approved supplier of motorway fencing timbers** to meet the UK Highways Agency 30 year service life requirements.

We are committed to sourcing our timber from well-managed, sustainable forests and offer assurance of full chain of custody certification for both FSC® and PEFC™ for all of our timber product ranges.



The mark of responsible forestry



PEFC™  
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Promoting Sustainable Forest Management  
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**Benchmark**  
APPROVED TREATER



**BOND**  
TIMBER

THE HOME OF WOOD

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# Be Tanalised® Timber Smart

**BOND**  
TIMBER

THE HOME OF WOOD

A GUIDE TO THE SPECIFICATION  
OF EXTERNAL CONSTRUCTION  
AND LANDSCAPING TIMBERS

**Tanalised®**  
TIMBER



Industrially applied timber treatments can significantly enhance the natural durability of wood, providing long-term protection against wood decay and insect attack. However, not all timber is treated to the same standard.

**Being Tanalised® Timber Smart** is all about making sure that the treated timber you buy is fit for purpose for its intended end-use application.

A crucial part to this is asking **5 SMART QUESTIONS**

1. What species of timber is being treated?
2. How well is the timber prepared prior to treatment?
3. How effective is the wood preservative?
4. How professional is the treatment process?
5. Am I working with a credible timber supplier?