Western Hemlock

Species Data Sheet



Common Name/s	West Coast Hemlock, Canada Pine, Hem Fir, Alaska Pine, Pacific Coast Hemlock
Botanical Name	Tsuga heterophylla
Primary Origin	North America from California to Alaska and east to Idaho and Montana
Colour & Figure	Heartwood – has a pale cream colour Sapwood – little variation between heartwood and sapwood Figure – natural lustre with uniform attractive grain and even texture, attractive, delicate, dark grey streaks may also be apparent in the wood
Density	Unseasoned - 800 kg/m3 Seasoned - 500 kg/m3
Hardness	Janka Rating - 2.6 - 3.0 Relative Rating - Soft
Durability (above ground)	Only suitable for weather protected applications
Weather Exposed	Not suitable
Grade Options	Select Grade – premium timber that has a clean look with a few natural growth characteristics included. Ideal for use were appearance is of importance.
Leaching of Tannins	Not applicable
Thickness (finished dressed)	Imported sizes are limited and generally thicknesses up to 38mm are only available on normal lead times
Width (finished dressed)	Generally only widths up to 140mm are available in any volume with the majority of boards in the 38-65-90mm width range.
Length	Lengths imported are from 1.8M to 6.0M heavily in the length range from 2.4M to 4.2M in 300mm increments. Large volumes of set lengths and sizes requires some forward planning to eliminate supply delays.
Price Guide	Relative Cost - 83 Units (compared to Western Red Cedar at 100 units)
Coating (external)	Not applicable
Coating (internal)	Factory pre coating can be offered in UV cured lacquer for non-hard wearing areas, spray applied two pack polyurethane for hard wearing applications or oils for other applications.
Availability	As an imported timber some limitations to the availability of volumes of set lengths and certain demand sizes is inevitable. Availability should be checked at the time of tendering and followed up prior to project commencement to ensure lead times can be met.