

Natural timber

SOLID HARDWOODS, PROPERLY SEASONED, SELECTED AND PREPARED INDIVIDUALLY FOR EACH ORDER



Marston & Langer uses solid hardwoods for the timber construction of our buildings. The wood for this purpose needs to be fine-grained, stable, and strong. We purchase from sustainable FSC-registered and audited forests ([see Environmental policy](#)). The hardwoods we use include the following species:

Sapele An exceptionally tough, naturally durable (meaning we don't have to use chemical preservatives) reddish-brown hardwood with beautiful texture and color. We use it to make the framework, doors, windows, and other exposed parts of our conservatories and orangeries.

Tulipwood Also called tulip poplar or yellow poplar, it's a yellowish/greenish timber from Eastern America. The wood is light but very strong, extremely stable, and finishes perfectly. We use it for internal components of our conservatories and orangeries.

Bolivian Cedar *Cedrela Fissillis*, similar to though not actually a cedar, is a fine-grained FSC South American timber. Naturally durable, it's particularly suitable for the construction of M&L's greenhouses.

Oak Used where the timber will have a natural unpainted finish, such as thresholds or where it's beautiful color and texture are a feature of the design.

Seasoning After being sawn into boards our timber is seasoned by a combination of traditional 'sticking' – spacing each board in a pile with small horizontal sticks for 1-3 years enabling air to move freely between them – and kiln drying which, in a perfectly controlled environment, reduces the moisture content to the optimum level.

Selection & Preparation Workshop visitors are often surprised to see that each order really is individually cut, shaped, and planed from roughly sawn boards. There's a good reason for this.

Timber, even after perfect seasoning, continues to respond to humidity and temperature, moving seasonally, as these change. We begin by carefully selecting each board for it's individual use. To produce perfect components, they are prepared and assembled just before use so they will remain straight and square. This enables us to make woodwork with perfect weatherproof jointing and a beautiful finish.

