

## Natural timber

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



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

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

**Tulipwood** Also sometimes called tulip poplar or yellow poplar, it is a yellowish/ greenish timber from Eastern USA. 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** is used where the timber will have a natural unpainted finish, such as thresholds or where it's beautiful colour 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, reduce 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 its individual use. And to produce perfect components they are best prepared and assembled just before use, so they will remain straight and square. This way we can make woodwork with perfect weatherproof jointing, and a beautiful finish.

