Material Specification

**Joinery:** (Doors and windows)
Joinery supplied by Oak Designs Co. is manufactured specifically for us using traditional carpentry methods by a local joiner using joinery grade, kiln dried timber and is delivered with a base coat already applied. Once installed, a minimum of two further coats should be applied by the customer as soon as possible to all surfaces to prevent the joinery taking on moisture from the atmosphere that can cause it to expand which will lead to door and windows openers sticking. Periodic re-treatment will be required to prolong the life of your joinery.

*Softwood, Iroko and Idigbo joinery* is pre-treated with Sikkens Cetol HLS. We recommend using Sikkens Cetol Filter 7 Plus to protect your joinery from the elements. Visit http://sikkens.trade-decorating.co.uk for further information and stockists.

*Oak* joinery is pre-treated with Sadolin Extra Durable Clear Coat Satin. We recommend using Sadolin Extra Durable Woodstain to protect your joinery from the elements. Visit http://sadolin.co.uk for further information and stockists.

All our glazed joinery is double glazed and fitted as standard with clear Pilkington K Glass. Where required under Building Regulations glazing is toughened. Obscure glazing as well as other specific requirements are available and should be specified at placement of order.

**Bricks:**
Our 150mm wide clamp-fired multi-stock facing bricks are specially made for us and are manufactured in accordance with the requirements of the following British Standards BS EN 771-1 and BS 4729. With outstanding properties of total durability, being F2 rated – fully frost resistant and nil-slight efflorescence rated. We supply our bricks in half and full packs (138 and 275 bricks respectively). The quantity required for your groundworks is estimated allowing for a wastage & breakage factor. It is your responsibility to check that our estimated requirement is sufficient for your project. Additional bricks and deliveries will be chargeable and surplus bricks will cannot be collected or refunded.

*Softwood Weatherboard:*
Our softwood weatherboard is ex200x38, sawn, featheredge Scandinavian White Wood sourced from our UK suppliers and is currently supplied pre-treated with Osmose Protim E406 to Class UC3b. This is an initial treatment and we recommend further treatment within...
six months of installation with two coats Sikkens Filter 7 Plus externally to protect the timber from the elements with periodic re- treatment to prolong its life. Visit http://sikkens.trade-decorating.co.uk for further information and stockists.

**Oak Weatherboard:**
Our oak boarding is ex200x20, fresh sawn, square edge, Green European Oak in QPA grade. We do not recommend that you treat your oak weatherboard with any preservative but simply allow it to weather naturally to a silver grey colour. Being a green timber, it will warp, twist and split naturally with seasonal changes in humidity we consider this part of its charm.

**Larch weatherboard**
Our Larch weatherboard is ex 200 x 38mm featheredge (30 to 8mm) European Larch is sourced from our specialist quality selected supplier and is natural, untreated form which eventually weathers to a silvery grey and is best left untreated due to its natural resins. Larch has good durability and suitable for our buildings and budget is a concern.

**Softwood:**
Our softwood materials are sawn (or planed on request), Scandinavian White Wood sourced from UK suppliers C16 and C24 graded subject to their use and currently supplied pre-treated with Osmose Protim E406 to Class UC3b Internal members do not require further treatment, however, you can decorate then with Sikkens Filter 7 Plus as Softwood Weatherboard.

**Oak:**
Oak Designs Co. uses fresh sawn, Green European Oak in QPA and QP1 grades. We source our oak direct from our selected sawmill in France with whom we have a longstanding relationship. All our oak is selected, graded and cut to order. Upon receipt of our oak, further checks are made for defects and each member chosen and machined accordingly. If during these quality control checks any material is deemed unfit for purpose it is rejected. Oak is a natural material and being fresh sawn it has a high moisture content, once machined and assembled into an oak frame, it will naturally loose some of this moisture and dry out. This process will cause the oak to shrink, tightening the joints and become stronger. This process will also potentially bring about twisting, splitting and some gaps to appear in otherwise tight fitting joints. These will not affect the structural integrity of the frame, however, we would strongly advise clients that forced drying with heating, log burners or dehumidifiers would accentuate this natural process particularly on garden rooms and enclosed or habitable buildings and that these should be kept to an absolute minimum for a period of at least six months.

Green Oak contains tannin, which, if the oak is subject to rain, will leach out and cause temporary brown rust-like staining to brickwork, concrete and stonework in contact with it. This will reduce over time and eventually fade away. Unsightly staining can be removed with Oxalic Acid or brick cleaner if desired. The tannin in green oak will also leave black marks where the oak has been in contact with ferrous metals when wet. We make every effort to prevent this during manufacture and remove any black marks from the oak before delivery. If any marks should occur, these again will fade over time but can be removed with Oxalic Acid, sanded or sandblasted out. Externally, we do not recommend that you treat your oak frame with any preservative but simply allow it to weather naturally to a silver grey colour. Internally you can treat the oak with natural bees wax or oils after sandblasting which will
not only accentuate its grain and beauty but also assist in minimizing the shrinkage in habitable/heated buildings.

**Defects:**
During our quality control checks, defective materials are rejected where any defect, such as shakes and splits, may affect the structural integrity of the frame or its aesthetics. Trees as they grow are subject to parasites in the environment, such as insects and beetles that lay their eggs in the bark and sapwood, these develop into larvae that eat the sapwood, mature and leave. Minimal sapwood is allowed through our selection process and where the presence of previous parasitic attack deemed acceptable is found in the heartwood, it is treated with a 5 Star solution. We do not guarantee, nor would it be practical, economic or environmentally responsible to guarantee, that all our Green Oak products are entirely free of traces of any parasites nor can we accept any responsibility for any future infestation. If you have any concerns after you have received delivery of your frame we recommend you seek the advice of a local pest control specialist.

All treatments and specifications stated in this document are subject to change without notification and substitute treatments of equal or increased specification may be used. Third party products specified are beyond the control of Oak Designs Co. and may be subject to change and availability and should be used in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations.

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