

CHARLES RANSFORD & SON

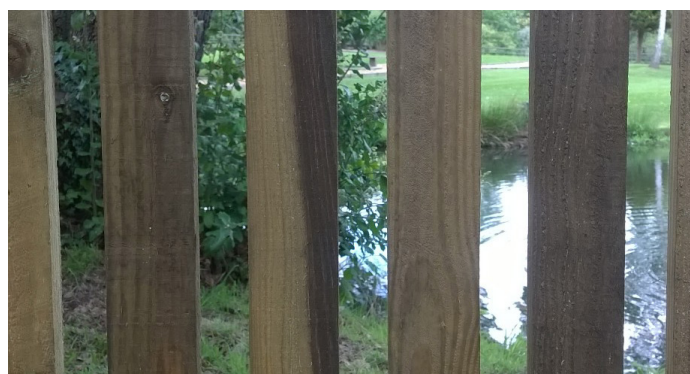
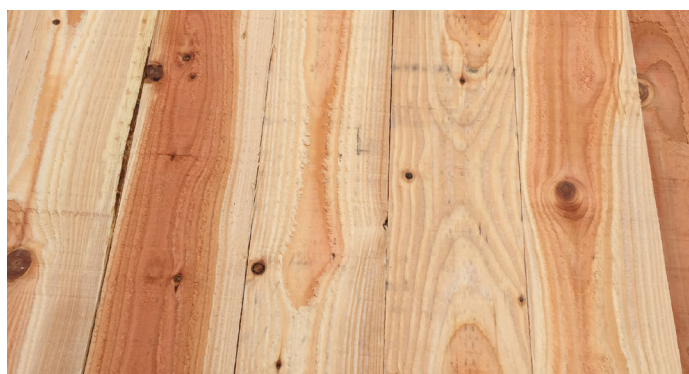
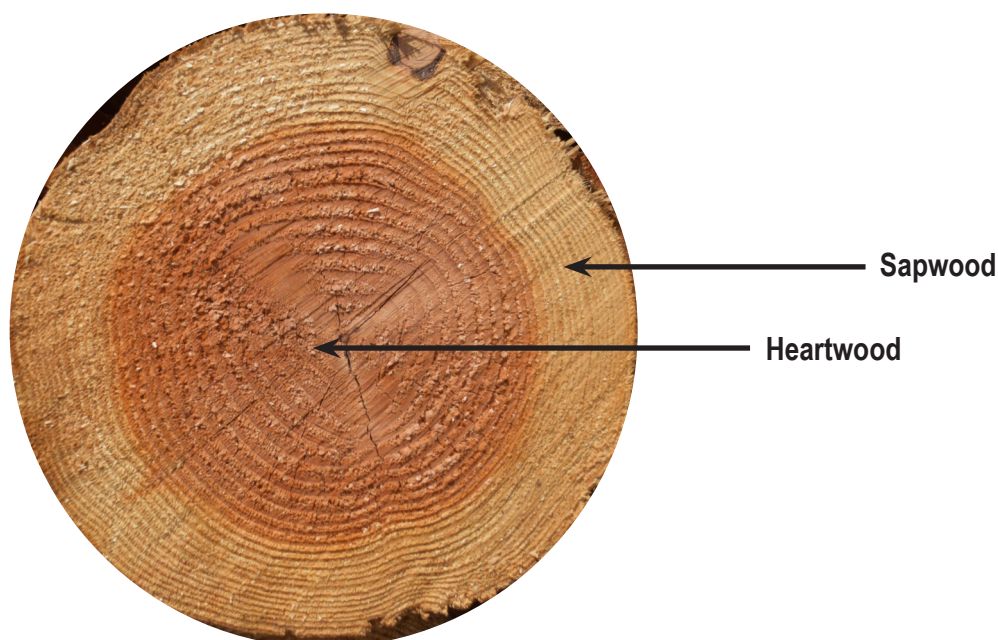
TIMBERSPECIALISTS SINCE 1876

Variations in the colour of treated timber

We're often asked why treated timber boards show variation in colour. It has nothing to do with the treatment: the preservatives used are mixed and applied to a consistent standard which is constantly monitored. The variables are in the timber itself: where it was grown, and which part of the tree the board was cut from.

In the same batch of boards we might be treating Larch from a cold north facing valley in Wales and from a south facing forest in Devon. Whilst the essential properties of the timber are the same, the trees will have grown in ways which reflect their surroundings and will thus be different in both colour and moisture levels.

Another variant is to do with the part of the tree the board was cut from and whether it is sapwood or heartwood. You can see the variation in the picture of the log end below and in the freshly cut, untreated, boards and fencing pictured below.



Within a very short time the differences in colour tend to disappear anyway as the timber dries naturally on site. It's then that timber really comes into its own: something that came from the landscape as a crop is part of the landscape again as a useful, natural and sustainable product.

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