

## **Guide to Exterior Cladding**

### **Natural woods.**

If you want to clad a Garden Office or Garden Building with wood grown in the UK, either Larch or Douglas fir are good choices. Larch is used in boat building and is known to last for years because of its high resin content.

Cedar, though mainly an imported wood, is another popular cladding choice. Cedar is quite a soft wood and can damage easily if knocked.

Woods such as pine are too soft for external cladding and will rot too quickly, even if treated with preservatives.

You could consider Oak for a very special finish on a Garden Office, but it needs to be installed by someone used to working with oak and it is very expensive.

### **Engineered woods.**

There are a number of engineered Claddings available, such as Thermowood. Engineered products have been pressure treated to ensure that they have a certain life span can also be used for Cladding a Garden Office.

### **Coloured woods.**

You can also buy ready coloured cladding woods that have been treated and spray painted. Typically these are more expensive than untreated woods. An example of this is Cape Cod Cladding which is guaranteed for ten years. For a garden building it is probably cheaper to paint or stain the cladding yourself. Some suppliers do offer coloured finishes for their buildings.

### **Man Made Cladding**

These can be good alternatives to the more traditional materials, especially if future Painting & Decorating are an issue.

It can be useful to Search online, for the Types of Weatherboard available, and consider your options.

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