

Hoppings

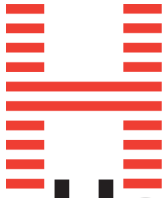
QUALITY PRODUCTS

Installation, Care and Maintenance Guide:

Q-Garden Claddings



Freephone Hoppings Helpline 0800 8496339



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QUALITY PRODUCTS

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Fitting Q-Garden™ Cladding

1 Boards should be fitted to studs or battens at ideally 400mm centres (not more than 600mm) and where joined only over a stud/batten.

When fitted to the elevation of a dwelling, the cavity behind the cladding should be backed with a breather membrane.

The cavity should be ventilated at the top and bottom of the wall and be of a depth not less than 19mm.

Note: It is important to allow for the expansion of **Q-Garden™** boards when fitting them.

Firstly, never inadvertently restrict interconnecting boards from expanding by butting the first and last boards of a run to immovable elements of the building/construction.

Secondly don't fit interconnecting boards tight to one another.

It is wise to connect adjacent boards then tease them apart ever so slightly before securing them to allow for potential expansion in the wetter seasons.

2 It is important to plan ahead when cladding two adjacent walls that meet at an internal or external corner.

It is advisable to fit cladding to both walls at the same time i.e. fit one board to one flank and the same height board to the adjacent flank.

If you do not adopt this approach aligning boards accurately where they meet at the corner may not be achievable.

Fit boards using ideally 45mm+ 306 grade stainless steel annular ring shank cladding nails or trim headed deck screws.

If the nature of the wall construction won't accept 45mm long fixings (such as battens over existing bricks) then shorter stainless steel screws can be used as an alternative.

The heads should be fitted flush with the face of the cladding.

If driven deeper it is wise to re-seal the punctured timber.

When fixing **Q-Garden®** 44mm loglap a longer nail or screw should be used (minimum 63mm).

Hoppings Softwood Products PLC.

Epping / Lingfield

The Woodyard, Epping Road.

Epping, Essex. CM16 6TT

Sales -

Tel. 01992 578877

Fax. 01992 561385

Freephone Hoppings Helpline 0800 8496339



Fitting Q-Garden™ Cladding cont'd

3 Any cuts to the **Q-Garden™** cladding should be end grain preservative treated with **Hickson® Decor**, **Ensele®** end grain preservative or **Ronseal®** end grain preserver to meet the terms of the **Q-Garden™** 15 year warranty.

4 Any joints between boards butted end to end or to trims should be caulked/sealed (and monitored/maintained as detailed in the warranty).

Alternatively 8-10mm gaps between joints/trims can be left, which enables natural ventilation and less maintenance.

Poor detailing can cause the moisture content of the cladding to become too high and may cause discolouration of light coloured paints in these specific areas and increase the risk of fungal infection/decay.

5 Take care to avoid splitting the timber when nailing near the end of boards (drilling pre-pilot holes may be required).

Making the nail head blunt can also serve to minimising splitting).

6 Depending on the batten/joist width, it can be prudent to use a pair of counter battens at the junction of boards butted end to end, to provide a wider area to nail into.

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