

At Elephant Timber, we can provide you with live edge timber that is perfect for creating bespoke outdoor furniture, such as tables, chairs and benches, bar tops, sculptures, planter boxes, pergolas and decks. Protect your wooden furniture from the elements with the use of covers during the winter. If the wood isn't properly treated and maintained, exposure to sun and rain can cause damage over time.

Choosing the right wood

Some types of wood are naturally more resistant to decay, insects and weathering, making them a good choice for your next outdoor project. The best wood species for outdoor use include cedar, oak and sweet chestnut.

Preparing your wood

- Remove any dirt, grime or mildew with a wood cleaner or a mixture of water and mild detergent to clean the wood surface. Use a scrubbing brush for stubborn stains.
- Sand the wood to smooth out any rough spots and open up the wood grain for better absorption of treatments. Use medium-grit sandpaper (80-120 grit) and follow the wood grain to avoid scratches.

Applying wood preservative

- Choose a wood preservative that protects against rot, decay and insects.
- For an even coverage, apply the preservative with a brush, roller, or as a spray.
- Allow the preservative to penetrate and dry as per the manufacturer's instructions.



Call us: 07941 034822 Email us: carl@elephanttimbersupplies.co.uk

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Sealing and staining

- Choose the correct sealants or stains to help extend the lifespan of the wood.
- Sealants provide a clear, protective layer that repels water and UV rays.
- Stains will add colour, while protecting against moisture and UV damage.
- Stains are available in transparent, semi-transparent and solid options.

Regular maintenance

- Clean the wood regularly to remove dirt, mould and mildew.
- Use a mild detergent or a specialist wood cleaner.
- For any greying of the wood, use a wood brightener or cleaner with oxalic acid.
- Reapply cleaner and brightener annually to maintain appearance.
- Depending on the exposure and wear, reapply sealant or stain every 1-3 years.



For further information on using treated outdoor timber, please refer to our [Protecting Wood Guide](#).

Get In Touch

If you are looking for timber slabs for building garden furniture or creating a wooden deck, visit our [online timber shop](#) and choose from our extensive range.

Or you can visit us in person, at our warehouse, where we can assist you with every aspect of choosing the perfect wood for your next outdoor project.



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