



Demolition Refurbishment Information Data Sheets

W7 TIMBER WINDOWS





Timber windows are made in various sizes, types and arrangements depending on the specification required. They are of varying quality, from softwood small profile windows to more desired hardwood windows or specialist display windows. Most windows are mass produced, whereas some are made-to-measure to suit a particular architectural finish. All windows will incorporate glass or glazed units and a range of fixtures.

Timber Windows Wood 17 02 01

WASTE STREAMS

DISPOSAL

The landfilling of timber windows may be the only option where the material is contaminated, rotten, badly damaged or in small pieces.

RECOVERY

Timber windows can be segregated from other materials and sent to an incinerator for energy recovery. Timber windows not contaminated with oils, paints or preservatives may be chipped or composted.

RECYCLE

Timber windows can be recycled where it is not contaminated and where there is a market demand for the materials to be used as feedstock in new products, not necessarily for construction.

RECLAIM

Timber windows in good condition, uncontaminated, easily removed and of value should be set aside for reuse, especially those with architectural or ornamental features.

USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Timber windows allow natural daylight and fresh air into buildings. They may have a casement, hopper, slider or sash in the frame to allow opening, or will be simply a fixed window. Most timber windows are fitted into external walls, but some will be fitted internally to help spread the right mix of light into the building. Some are fitted into roofs or may be arranged to form an atrium.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).













REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Depending on how timber windows have been fitted for use, will determine how they are removed, segregated and stored. Timber windows in good condition, of architectural or ornamental value and uncontaminated will have a reuse value, especially if there is a large number of similar size. They should be segregated and stored inside on skids, pallets or vertically away from the wind to prevent toppling and covered with plastic or tarpaulin to keep dry. They should also be stored away from plant movements to prevent breakage or splash damage. Timber windows destined for recycling or recovery should be segregated from other materials in a timber only skip. Timber windows destined for landfill can be placed in the mixed waste skip.

TOOLS

Hammer, lump hammer, saw, nailbar, crowbar, jemmy bar, screwdriver, wood chisel, spanners, bolster chisel, electric circular saw.

FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Timber windows are commonly built into cavity walls or timber frame panel systems and fixed in place with nails, wedges, screws, cavity fasteners, mortar or mastic. Window casements, sashes, hoppers and sliders will be fastened in place with a casement handle and/or a casement stay and secured with a sash bolt, window lock, cylinder lock, window bolt or other type of window lock. They may include handles to open, slide or lift the window opening. Most windows will incorporate plastic or metal window vents. All windows will be coated, painted or preserved in one form or another.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS). Use correct protective equipment for removing fixings, especially bolts, nails and screws. Wear gloves when handling timber windows with damaged edges or coated in preservatives to prevent irritation, cuts and splinters. Wear eye protection when removing nails with a crowbar, hammer or nailbar and at all times when using chisels. Use specialist gloves, face protection and clothing if removing glass. Beware of large window openings to prevent falls from height.

FURTHER READING

Timber Recycling
Designing out Waste
Demolition Code of Practice
SWMP Guide
Reclaimed Products Guide
Wood Recycling
Reclaimed Windows
Reuse and Recycling Windows
Windows Sustainability Action Plan

TRAINING

Working at Height
Manual Handling
Safe Use of Hand Tools

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Created on: May 9, 2014, 9:58 am