

## Reactions of Galvanised Steel & Zinc with Some Woods



**Some wood cannot be used with uncoated galvanised steel and zinc rainwater goods because they contain a high volume of acid.**

We do not recommend use in combination with:

- Douglas Fir
- Oak
- Chestnut
- Larch
- Red cedar
- Cedar

Materials such as cedar or birch cladding contain volatile alcohols, and oils that have a solvent action on some protective coatings applied to metal - iron and uncoated steel are much more susceptible to the corrosive influence of these woods than aluminium, copper or brass, for example.



**Some metals should not be used with galvanised steel and zinc rainwater goods.**

Galvanic Corrosion is an electrochemical process which occurs when dissimilar metals are in contact with each other in the presence of an electrolyte - **rain water** and salt water make especially good electrolytes. Using metals close together on the scale reduces the prevalence of bimetallic corrosion.

Aluminium rainwater systems should not be used with copper roofing, for example. When rainwater from the roof makes contact with the uninsulated aluminium the risk for galvanic corrosion to occur is high because of the copper ions in the water. The closer the galvanic potentials are, the less corrosion that will occur.

The size of the surface area in contact make a difference to the risk of corrosion. A thick layer of paint or a rubber washer in between can reduce the risk.



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