



LMAtimber
sustainable • architectural
AUSTRALIAN HARDWOOD

CHARRED IRON BARK CLADDING: ARCHITECTURAL SPECIFICATION & GUIDE

LMA TIMBER PREMIUM RANGE

Bringing the traditional Japanese art of Shou Sugi Ban (Yakisugi) to sustainable, local architectural applications. By precision-charring premium Class 1 Australian Red Ironbark, we deliver an exquisite, deeply protected timber facade that stands the test of time.



1. INTRODUCTION TO SHOU SUGI BAN

Shou Sugi Ban, also known traditionally as Yakisugi cladding, is a time-honoured Japanese technique that alters the surface of the wood through controlled charring. This flame-application process crafts a localized carbon layer over the exterior face of the timber. Far beyond a striking aesthetic choice, this natural carbon barrier creates a highly resilient shield that dramatically elevates the timber's performance against weathering, extreme climates, fungal decay, and insect attack. Because the finish is physical rather than chemical, it cannot peel, flake, or crack like artificial paints and stains.

2. MATERIAL PROFILE: PREMIUM CLASS 1 AUSTRALIAN RED IRONBARK

Not all timbers react equally to the charring process. Through extensive evaluation, premium local Australian species have been selected to ensure ideal structural performance, with BAL 29 Class 1 Red Ironbark proving to be the absolute pinnacle choice for architectural cladding.

PROPERTY		SPECIFICATION & PERFORMANCE DATA
	Durability Rating	Class 1 (Highest natural durability rating available; 40+ years above-ground lifespan).
	Bushfire Attack Level	BAL 29 Rated (Naturally fire-resistant hardwood suitable for restricted building zones).
	Sourcing & Compliance	100% locally sourced, fully certified under FSC, PEFC, and Responsible Wood standards.
	Environmental Footprint	Low carbon footprint compared to imported or heavily chemically/thermally altered softwoods.



3. SINGLE-SIDED PRECISION CHARRING

A common misconception in architectural specifications is that charring both sides of an exterior board enhances its performance. In practice, modern precision engineering refutes this. LMA Timber utilises a strict single-sided flame exposure system designed to maintain exact structural equilibrium.

- **EQUILIBRIUM & STABILITY:** The localized heat applied to the face of our 115mm and 65mm shiplap boards naturally equalises throughout the core density, keeping the board straight and minimizing twisting or cupping post-installation.
- **TARGETED PROTECTION:** Environmental degradation exclusively targets the exposed external face. Concentrating the carbon barrier on this face protects the critical wear layer without needlessly compromising the backboard's natural tensile integrity.



4. FINISH OPTIONS FOR IRONBARK CLADDING

Depending on your architectural intent, Ironbark can be processed into a clean, modern aesthetic or a traditional textured surface:

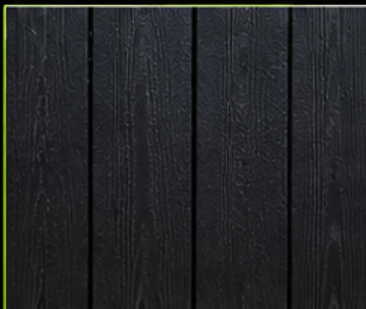
STANDARD CHARRED FINISH (AUSTRALIAN ADOPTION)

This finish features a highly consistent, smooth, deep black surface with minimal surface crackle. It delivers a refined, uniform, and ultra-clean contemporary appearance that perfectly complements modern minimalist designs. This smooth carbon aesthetic is a specialty finish achievable with high-density hardwoods like Ironbark.



DEEP CHARRED FINISH (TRADITIONAL YAKISUGI)

This finish showcases a heavy, deeply fractured "crocodile-skin" crackle texture. It provides an organic, high-contrast, multi-dimensional texture where the depth of the char varies naturally across individual board densities. Note: For external applications, this highly textured finish is typically reserved for specified materials like Sugi or Imbue; however, it can be utilised internally with Ironbark to create dramatic feature walls.



STANDARD CHARRED FINISH
Smooth, deep black, minimal crackle
– ultra-clean contemporary look.



DEEP CHARRED FINISH
Heavily fractured "crocodile-skin"
texture – organic, high-contrast,
multi-dimensional.





5. KEY ARCHITECTURAL BENEFITS

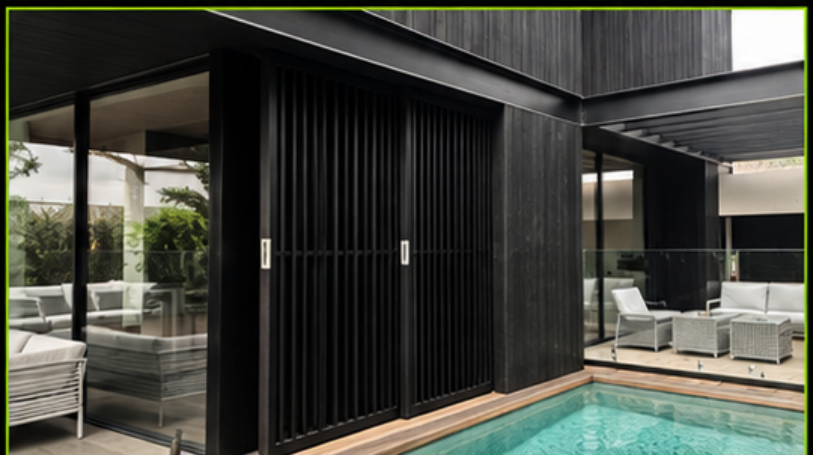
- **EXCEPTIONAL LONGEVITY:** Boasts an above-ground performance life exceeding 40 years due to the robust properties of Class 1 Ironbark.
- **SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER MAINTENANCE:** Unlike typical exterior timber finishes requiring annual attention, charred timber cladding only requires a simple re-oiling maintenance cycle once every 5 to 7 years.
- **EFFORTLESS INSTALLATION:** Supplied as a precision milled shiplap profile to meet NZS3617 requirements. It installs just like any other timber cladding, pre-drilling and using black coated stainless steel screws.
- **ARCHITECTURAL VERSATILITY:** Suitable for external facades, feature columns, external battens, and internal ceiling or wall linings.



6. CURING, HANDLING, & INTERIOR APPLICATIONS

Immediately after installation in an external setting, the cladding undergoes a natural weathering and stabilisation phase lasting approximately 3 months. During this initial period, ambient micro-dust on the carbon surface naturally dissipates with wind and rain. Once fully settled, the surface is completely clean to the touch and will not transfer carbon or black marks onto clothing or skin.

For interior specifications, LMA Timber can apply a specialised, ultra-clear polyurethane factory seal. This architectural coating completely locks in the micro-dust from day one, allowing immediate internal use in high-traffic commercial or residential spaces without any tracking or marking. (Note: Factory polyurethane sealing is strictly for internal use and must not be specified for external applications).



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PAGE 3 OF 3