



Draffin Street Furniture Batten Material Guide

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Draffin offers a variety of batten material options. This guide will highlight each materials qualities so you can make an educated decision on what material best suits your application. There are plenty of factors to consider when it comes to batten choice and choosing the right one will give you optimum benefits including looks, costs, endurance and more.

Timber Spotted Gum



At Draffin Street Furniture, we focus on providing high quality, yet functional timber products that enhance any urban environment. Our standard Spotted Gum timber is Class 1, furniture grade PEFC certified hardwood. And complies with stringent economic, social, and cultural criteria to ensure that current and future environmental needs are met and protected for generations to come. Known for its overall reliability, hard wearing and low maintenance, it can withstand our harsh and ever-changing Australian climate.

To protect the timber from weathering we use Intergrain Ultradeck, an exceptionally long lasting, water-based stain. It is safe to use, gentle on the environment and will protect your timber furniture against the harsh Australian environment, minimising the abrasive effects caused by continuous use. Conduct a routine 12 monthly maintenance inspection to keep the battens looking their best. First indication of the need for recoating will be observed as patchiness or discoloration around edges.

Pros

- Sustainably produced
- Very dense
- Timber characteristics
- Highly durable for outdoor applications
- Strong, long spans between supports
- Readily available

Cons

- Like all wood, Spotted Gum can split and crack if not maintained
- Requires ongoing maintenance to maintain new look or can be left to grey naturally over time.
- Inconsistent Colour and Grain (part of the natural charm of timber)

Composite Timber

EnviroSlat - Walnut



Composite timbers are a great alternative to traditional timber products and help to reduce our dependence on precious timber species. It looks like wood but offers a range of additional features making it great value for money. EnviroSlat products are made from recycled polyolefin (plastic from post industrial waste), rice husks and recycled hardwood timber so they are ecologically sustainable.

Composite timbers are virtually maintenance free, needing only periodic cleaning to keep it looking great.

Pros

- Sustainably produced
- Cost effective
- No maintenance
- Uniform finish

Cons

- Not as strong as timber products (may require extra batten support)

Aluminium Battens

Anodised Aluminium



Aluminium battens are cost effective and give a great clean modern look to street furniture. Ideal for use in coastal areas, as it cannot rust. It is no wonder aluminium is a popular choice for outdoor usage. Despite aluminium being lightweight, the profiles we use are still very strong, allowing long spans between supports. This in turn reduces the overall manufacturing and material costs of the furniture.

A big benefit to using aluminium is it looks great year after year without any maintenance. Although extreme temperatures can weaken the material over time, so it still pays to inspect the furniture from time to time if installed in such areas.

Pros

- Uniform look
- Strong, long spans between supports
- No maintenance
- Durable
- Can be powdercoated to suit your area if required

Cons

- Environmental impact (High energy usage and carbon emissions for production)
- Appearance does not suit all applications



Note: All Aluminium Battens have end caps and rivets on the ends

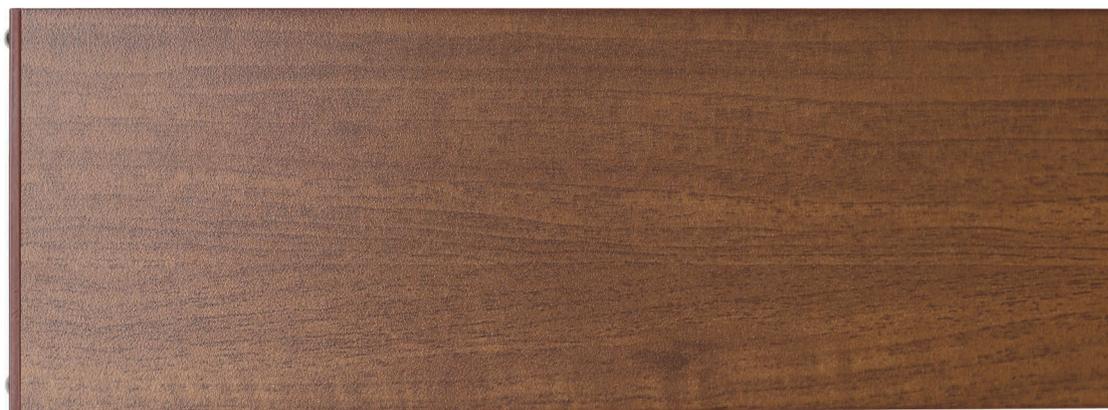


Timber-Look Aluminium Battens

Alpine Ash



Mountain Gum



Ironbark



If you are torn between the look of timber and the benefits of aluminium, there is a solution for this. Recent technological advancements in coatings for aluminium have resulted in a new product that is proving a very popular choice for outdoor public furniture. There are a few colour choices to choose from, and the finishes not only look great, but also form a protective layer over the aluminium battens.

Timber-look battens will look good year after year without maintenance. Although it always makes sense to perform routine inspections and cleaning on all public furniture to ensure safety and maintain the look of the furniture for many years to come.

Pros

- Consistent timber appearance
- Strong, long spans between supports
- No maintenance
- Durable

Cons

- Environmental impact (High energy usage and carbon emissions for initial production)



Note: All Aluminium Battens have end caps and rivets on the ends

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 Street Furniture



Recycled Plastic



A growing number of products from Draffin Street Furniture feature Recycled Plastic. Made in a 25mm sheet form and cut into shapes for some of our most popular products, including our Satellite and Constellation furniture suites. A material sourced locally and made from 100% post-industrial recycled polymers, making use of this waste resource and diverting it from landfill. Recycled High Density PolyEthylene or “HDPE” can also be recycled at the end of its service. This hardy material is totally waterproof and resistant to most chemicals and UV light, wont rot, split or crack and therefore requires little to no maintenance.

Pros

- Bright colours available
- Suited to schools and applications trying to brighten the space with furniture
- Sustainability
- Maintenance Free
- When large sections used very hardy

Cons

- Needs more frame support than same sized timber
- Can add cost to furniture if more supports are required than timber
- Can sag in sun if not well supported

As you can see, there is no perfect batten material, however when deciding what you may need for your project some of the pros and cons of each material may not be as important as other factors. For instance: Aluminium may not look as aesthetically pleasing as timber but suits the area the furniture will be installed. Or, budget constraints may strike the timber batten choice off your list, but if you don't have a maintenance program it may not be the best choice anyhow. If you need further advice, speak with our friendly sales team who can help you choose the right batten material for your application.