

**JohnBrash**

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February 2015

# Roofing Battens

Includes 2014 updates to  
**BS5534**







Fully graded BS5534 Roofing Batts, a full range of timber ancillary products and carcassing are offered to meet all the roofers' needs.



# Over 100 years of British manufacturing since 1905

John Brash is the UK's only manufacturer of graded Roofing Battens and Europe's largest producer of Factory Graded Roofing Battens. We have Europe's only dedicated Roofing Batten scanning line. This is a computer controlled, dedicated laser and camera grading line, to produce battens graded to the performance requirements of BS5534:2014 more quickly and accurately – most other suppliers into the UK Batten market still rely on visual grading.

Dedicated manufacturing and treatment plants at the John Brash site in Gainsborough are optimally located close to the East Coast ports and support over 100 UK manufacturing jobs.

Sourcing is flexible across the whole of Europe, from both global forest product companies to private mills. This flexibility extends from sourcing the best timber and continuity of supply to the grade and manufacture of JB-RED Roofing Battens

All John Brash timbers are legally and sustainably sourced in accordance with the EU timber regulations, supplied with either FSC® or PEFC Certification. As members of the Timber Trade Federation, John Brash supports the Responsible Purchasing Scheme.

John Brash's commitment to quality and service is demonstrated by ISO 9001:2008 accreditation.

Rigorous quality control and audit processes, backed by the only BBA Agreement certificate for roofing battens, ensures that the final product also meets the required standard. Full factory control processes are in place and a consistent high-grade product is produced.

John Brash is the UK's only manufacturer of graded roofing battens and Europe's largest producer of Factory Graded Roofing Battens with a dedicated roofing batten scanning line. At the end of 2014 to meet with the rising demand in construction materials, the company made their largest investment since 2006 and installed a new Microtec Goldeneye scanner; the only one of its kind in Europe which will deliver a much faster and more accurate scanning result.

The Goldeneye incorporates the very latest developments in scanning with state of the art laser and colour camera features ensuring that all JB Red Roofing Battens are graded to the new revised BS5534:2014.

The new Microtec Goldeneye batten scanner has been installed to meet the increasing demands for factory graded roofing battens





# BATTEN STANDARDS: BS5534

The 2014 update to BS5534 means that requirements for roofing battens have changed. Only battens that have been pre or factory graded to BS5534 can be called or used as 'Roofing Battens'.

There are no changes to the requirements for battens within the new British Standard BS5534:2014 code of practice for slating and tiling, including shingles. There is now a requirement that when roofing to meet BS5534, the details must be complied with.

All roofing batten must be delivered, marked with the following information and at the correct moisture content:

## Identification and documentation

Each delivery of battens should be accompanied by documentation stating at least the :

- a) name of supplier
- b) origin (imported or British-grown, and/or species code)
- c) graded in accordance with BS5534
- d) basic size or sizes;
- e) type of preservative and method of treatment, if applicable

## Marking

Each batten should be indelibly marked with following information:

- a) supplier;
- b) origin (imported or British-grown, and/or species code)
- c) "graded BS5534"
- d) size

To meet these requirements set in BS5534:2014 on-site grading is impractical and as such is no longer an accepted practice.

All battens must meet BS5534 at the time of delivery. Grading is a time consuming process and requires training or a competent person to grade. The identification requirements must be met for both accompanying documentation and on the individual batten.

This has been the case since 2011 with NHBC warranted sites. Likewise the Competent Roofer scheme allows the builder to self-certify to building regulations (works must be carried out to BS5534 and compliant products used).

## Minimum timber batten sizes (roofing and vertical work)

Application	Basic minimum size of batten <sup>A), B), C)</sup>			
	Up to 450mm Span <sup>D)</sup>		451 mm to 600mm span <sup>D)</sup>	
	Width mm	Depth mm	Width mm	Depth mm
Slates (double-lap):				
Natural : sized or random	50	25	50	25
Fibre-cement or concrete clay and concrete tiles	38	25	50	25
Double-lap	38	25	38	25
Single-lap	38	25	50	25

- A) Tolerances on the basic sizes of timber batten should be: width +3 mm, depth  $^{-0}_{+3}$  mm, based on measurement at a reference moisture content of 20%.
- B) These minimum sizes do not apply to battens used to support ridges, hips and valleys.
- C) Batten sizes for other slates, tiles and shingles such as timber shingles and shake and metal tiles, or other proprietary roofing products, should be in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- D) Span is defined as the distance between centres of supports, or the clear distance between the faces of supports plus half the bearing length at each end support, which is the lesser. The end-bearing length should not be less than 17.5mm.

Source : BS5543:2014 BSI Standards Publication



### Batten for NHBC work

JB-RED is approved by NHBC to be used as Roofing Battens on new homes. The NHBC were the first to recognise that battens should be delivered graded at the time of delivery ready for immediate installation.



### HSE guidelines

The HSE guide, HSG33 Health and Safety in Roofwork, only recognise that factory graded battens provide a secure foothold when installing a pitched roof (as an alternative to roof ladders). Their recommendation was updated recently, to insist on factory graded battens for use on 600mm centres (previous advice only related to 450mm centres).



### CompetentRoofers

CompetentRoofers is the DCLG Government-licensed Competent Person Scheme that allows professional roofing contractors to self-certify that their roof refurbishment work complies with BS5534 Building Regulations within England and Wales. To meet these requirements only factory graded BS5534 battens can be used.





# JB | *Red*

## Quality graded timber roofing battens

JB-RED is a high quality roofing batten and the first fully pre-graded batten available to the roofing industry.

JB-RED completely meets the NHBC requirements for fully graded roofing battens. Its RED colour means that it is highly visible on site, therefore Local Authority Building Control, NHBC and other inspectors can see that high quality, pre-graded and compliant battens have been used.

All JB-RED has full chain of custody (FSC or PEFC) certification and is available in both 25x38 and 25x50 sizes.

- Pre-graded to all the strength requirements of BS 5534:2014 for roofing battens.
- Marked according to BS 5534:2014 showing supplier name, origin/species, grade (BS 5534) and size.
- The product and process is UKAS third party assessed by the BBA with a BBS agreement certificate.
- JB-RED is LABC registered detail and is approved for use by local authorities.
- JB-RED carries full product liability insurance.
- Manufactured from slow grown, high grade timber, selected from the approved species within BS 5534:2014, typically European Redwood (PNSY) or European Whitewood (WPCA).
- Only kiln dried sideboards are used to ensure stability and dimensional accuracy.
- Treated to BS 8417:2011 Usage Class 2, using Koppers MicroPro® with a unique Red Colour.
- Carries 60 year lifetime guarantee against insect attack and wood rotting fungi (when installed correctly in accordance with the requirements of Usage Class 2).
- Packaged in easy to handle bundles of 10.
- Reduced wastage as it has been factory graded.
- Reduced theft as it is easy to spot if used elsewhere on site.
- Quicker to fix.
- Machined to give a consistent 25mm thick batten.
- Lighter in weight.



## Checklist for Factory Graded Roofing Battens

Item to Assess	Other Roofing Battens	JB Red
Dimension (Full Measure)	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Length	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Knots	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Wane	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Slope of Grain	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Distortion	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Species	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Fissures	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Rate of Growth	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Cut from Side Boards	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Decay & Insect Attack	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Treatment (60 year warranty BS8417)	Check with supplier	Done ✓
Identification & Marking	Check with supplier	Done ✓
FSC/PEFC Accreditation	Check with supplier	FSC or PEFC Accredited
Third Party Accreditation	Check with supplier	BBA Certified 'to achieve a 60 year design'

### Grading

All JB-RED Roofing battens are supplied graded to meet the performance requirements of BS5534. Occasionally some end splits may develop after grading. These should be trimmed off at the time of fixing, as should any splits greater than 150mm that occur due to nailing. A quick visual check is always recommended to assess for any handling damage and obvious error.

### Lengths and fixing requirements

JB-RED is supplied in lengths generally 3.0m and longer (usually 3.6m and longer). A Batten should be a minimum of 1.2m long and span at least 3 rafters.

Not more than one in four battens should be joined over one truss for gauges over 200mm below 200mm there can be 3 consecutive joins in any twelve battens. The best way to meet this is to buy a spread of lengths so joints can be staggered.

Battens should be nailed to the centre of the rafter. All joints should be over a rafter with the batten square cut, tightly butted and skewed nailed. When set in mortar the cut batten end should be treated or the batten turned so that the treated end is in the mortar (with dry fix systems the batten cut end is deemed to be within the roof and not requiring re treating).

**To view detailed JB-RED product spec sheets, maintenance details and case studies visit: [www.johnbrash.co.uk/timber-battens/jb-red-roofing-battens/](http://www.johnbrash.co.uk/timber-battens/jb-red-roofing-battens/)**

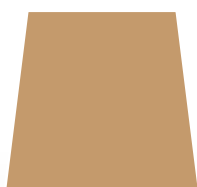
## JB | Specialty

John Brash offer a full range of roofing timbers above truss or rafter level, all of which are treated with MicroPro.

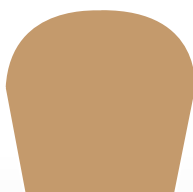
Most speciality battens are outside the scope of BS5534. John Brash supplies high grade speciality battens that have been successfully used for many years.

Counter battens do fall within BS5534. However counter Battens need only comply with sections 4.1.1 Timber Species and 4.1.4.4. Counter battens do not need grading in accordance with annex D nor need marking.

It must be noted that if the larger sections such as 38x50 or 50x50 are used as roofing battens these MUST be graded in accordance with BS5534 and these are available as part of the JBRed range.



*Zinc Roll*



*Lead Roll*



*Timber Curb*



*Angle Fillet / c/c*



*Carcassing*



*Counter Batten*



*Drip Batten*



*Feather Edge / Firrings*

To view detailed JB Specialty product spec sheets, maintenance details visit:  
[www.johnbrash.co.uk/timber-battens/jb-specialty/](http://www.johnbrash.co.uk/timber-battens/jb-specialty/)

John Brash offer a range of other timber products



JB | Shingles



JB | Scaffold Boards





There are many non-roofing uses for timber battens. JBi is an economical choice for battens; affordable quality for a batten that isn't used for roofing.

JBi is manufactured from European Red or Whitewood. The batten is treated with MicroPro® to BS 8417:2011 Usage Class 2, to give a 60 year guarantee against insect attack and wood rotting fungi (when installed correctly in accordance with the requirements of Usage Class 2). Use class 3 for exterior applications can be provided. The JBi range of battens can either be sawn or moulded.



**Important note** - When roofing to comply to BS5534:2014 'grade on site' battens such as JBi cannot be used. Factory graded JB-Red roofing battens should be used for all pitch roofing applications  
To find out more request a Batten CPD via our website at [www.johnbrash.co.uk/request-cpd](http://www.johnbrash.co.uk/request-cpd)

**To view detailed JBi product spec sheets, maintenance details and case studies visit:**  
[www.johnbrash.co.uk/timber-battens/jbi-sawn-timber-battens/](http://www.johnbrash.co.uk/timber-battens/jbi-sawn-timber-battens/)



**JB** | *CitiDeck*



**JB** | *AntislipPlus*

## Packaging Specifications

### JB-RED

Treated with MicroPro with a red pigment.

Batten Size (mm x mm)	Pieces per Bundle	Bundles per pack	Total Pieces per Pack
25 x 38	10	56	560
25 x 50	10	44	440

### JBi

Treated with MicroPro.

Batten Size (mm x mm)	Pieces per Bundle	Bundles per pack	Total Pieces per Pack
19 x 38	10	70	700
19 x 50	10	55	550
25 x 38	10	56	560
25 x 50	10	44	440

### Counter Battens

We can manufacture accurately as small as 6 x 25. The sizes used often vary around the country. The small section battens 6 x 25 to 13 x 50 are only available in 3.0m lengths from stock (over lengths to order). Treated with clear MicroPro preservative treatment.

Batten Size (mm x mm)	Pieces per Bundle	Bundles per pack	Total Pieces per Pack
6 x 25	100	8	800
6 x 38	40	14	560
10 x 38	24	14	336
10 x 50	24	10	240
13 x 38	20	14	280
13 x 50	20	10	200

### Large Section Roofing & Counter Batten & Non Standard Battens

Treated with clear MicroPro preservative treatment.

Batten Size (mm x mm)	Pieces per Bundle	Bundles per pack	Total Pieces per Pack
32 x 38	10	14	140
32 x 50	12	10	120
38 x 38	6	12	72
38 x 50	6	10	60
47 x 50	6	8	48



## Specialty Battens

(Angle Fillets, Firrings, Tilting Battens, Fascia, Lead, Zic, Roll) Treated with MicroPro preservative treatment.

Batten Size (mm x mm)	Pieces per Bundle	Bundles per pack	Total Pieces per Pack
25 x 100 f/edge	10	10	100
25 x 125 f/edge	10	8	80
25 x 150 c/c / Angle Fillet	10	6	60
25 x 150 Fascia/Planed All Round	30	1	30
38 x 38 c/c / Angle Fillet	12	12	144
50 x 50 c/c / Angle Fillet	12	8	96
50 x 50 Lead Roll	60	1	60
50 x 50 Zinc Roll	60	1	60
50 x 50 Furring	12	8	96
50 x 75 Furring	6	12	72
50 x 100 c/c / Angle Fillet	6	8	48
50 x 100 Furring	6	8	48
75 x 75 c/c / Angle Fillet	8	6	48
75 x 150 Timber Curb	2	9	18
75 x 75 King Roll	24	1	24

## Roofing Accessories

John Brash offers a one stop shop for all your roofing timbers above truss or rafter level.

## Important John Brash batten information

### Preservative treatment

Information on preservative treatments can be found on the treatment data sheets from the downloads page of our website [www.johnbrash.co.uk/downloads](http://www.johnbrash.co.uk/downloads)

### Storage

All JB-RED is stored undercover:

Once delivered, store battens and counter battens on sufficient bearers to prevent sagging or twisting. They should also be protected from water saturation whilst lying horizontally.

### Deliveries

All products are available from stock or via a network of distributors. Stillage deliveries and self-unloading crane vehicles are available. John Brash maintains large stocks to enable a rapid delivery service.

Full technical support is available from the sales office, alongside a full range of literature and point of sale materials.



John Brash & Co. Limited., The Old Shipyard, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 1NG  
 Tel: **01427 675555** Fax: **01427 810218** Email: **info@johnbrash.co.uk**

**JohnBrash**  
[www.johnbrash.co.uk](http://www.johnbrash.co.uk)