



duncombe sawmill



Splits & Cracks in Timber Posts



We supply posts in softwood or hardwood in a variety of styles to match your gate or fencing.

Our softwood posts come in larch or spruce.



Larch is one of the most durable of the softwoods and is the contractors choice for any post that needs to go into the ground due to its longevity and natural resistance to rot and fungus. However, although larch is the most durable, it is also likely to crack more and release more sap than spruce or other mixed softwood posts (which will also crack).

It is a personal decision as to whether longevity or looks are more important to you.

Hardwood oak posts are also known for their durability. Like larch, it is the nature of oak that it will also split and crack. Opepe is less likely to move and works best with iroko gates.

Splits and cracks will occur in timber as it expands and contracts with humidity and temperature changes. The splits and cracks happen because timber is a natural material and throughout the year the wood expands and contracts with the seasons.

Cracks will often expand more in the summer due to heat and dry weather and then contract in the winter months. We appreciate that these can appear quite large and alarming; however this is perfectly normal and should not affect the strength or integrity of the post.

Please be aware that we do not offer a guarantee on our timber for splits, cracks, or release of sap after delivery or installation of the posts as this is the nature of the timber species we supply. We are unable to give any guarantee against shrinkage, warping, or knots which can be caused by natural reactions to variations in humidity and temperature; nor can we accept any responsibility for small defects in timber, which occur after the products have left the workshop due to the natural movement of timber.