

Felling and conversion

1 Timber in the forest

Complete the text with these words.

chainsaw • elephants •
horses • logs • sawmill • trees

A forester selects _____ (1)
for harvesting.



Trees are usually cut down with a _____ (2).

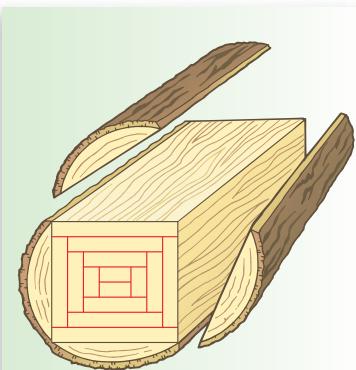
Then all the branches are cut off. The trees are now called _____ (3).

In some countries they are then pulled out of the forest by _____ (4).

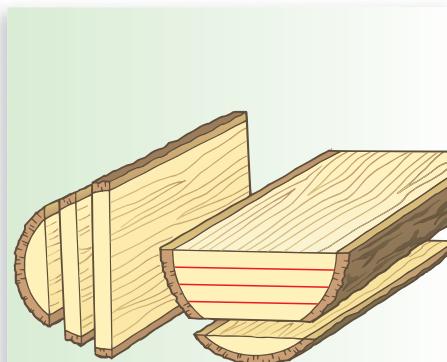
In some Asian countries _____ (5) are used to pull them
out of the jungle. These hardworking animals are cheaper than big machines and they don't
damage other trees or the ground. The logs are usually pulled to the nearest river and floated down
to the nearest _____ (6).

2 Cutting the timber

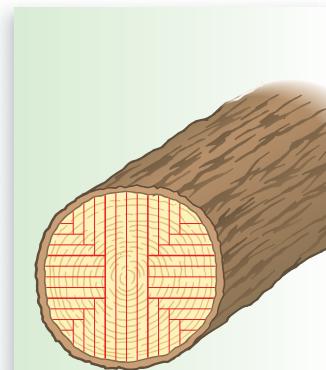
Match the diagrams with the descriptions.



A. tangential sawn



B. plain sawn



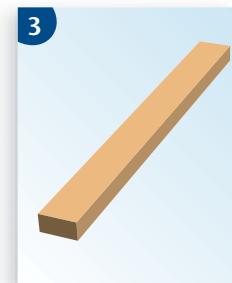
C. quarter sawn

- This is the cheapest method of cutting the log. But planks cut this way shrink unevenly and tend to warp and then they can only be used for rough work.
- This method means that the log must be turned often. The process takes longer and is therefore more expensive. The planks tend to swell and shrink easily.
- This method gives the best quality timber. It has good grain patterns and can be used for high-quality woodwork.

3 Types of timber

Label the illustrations with these words.

batten • tongue-and-groove floorboard •
moulding • plank • skirting board



4 The timber supplier

Listen to the CD and make notes. Then complete these sentences.

- 1 Planks are often used for _____.
- 2 Planks are also used as floor _____ when extra strength is needed.
- 3 The _____ are used to secure roof tiles.
- 4 Battens are nailed to the _____.
- 5 Most floorboards have _____ and _____.
- 6 The floorboards here are made from good quality _____.
- 7 Floorboards can be _____ and varnished for a good finish.
- 8 Skirting boards are examples of _____ boards.
- 9 Some of the materials are smooth and some are very _____.
- 10 The rough materials come straight from the _____.
- 11 The smooth materials are more _____.

Check your spelling:

battens • expensive • grooves • joists • moulded • pine •
rafters • rough • sanded • sawmill • scaffolding • tongues

5 Trades

Use the following words to complete these sentences.

driver • forester • lumberjack • machinist

- 1 The _____ identifies the trees that can be felled.
- 2 The _____ cuts the trees down.
- 3 The tractor _____ moves the logs out of the forest.
- 4 The _____ operates the saws that cut the timber.

