



Timber Policy

The Very Group combines amazing brands with flexible payment options to help families get more out of life.

We are also helping our people and customers make sustainable choices, reducing our impact on the environment and supporting our communities.

Aims

We recognise the need to be responsible regarding conservation of the World's forests.

We are working in partnership with the award winning environmental non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the world's forests, species and climate - **Canopy**.

For this reason, The Very Group is committed to protecting the world's forests through our approach to procurement of wood.

Forest Protection Policy

Forest Protection Commitment

We want to ensure responsible sourcing of our products across our home and furniture ranges. In line with the commitments made through this policy we will prioritise the sourcing of products made with Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certified timber.

As a minimum, we risk assess all timber products to verify that the material used was harvested, traded, and transported in compliance with the applicable legislation in the country of origin in line with the UK and EU Timber Regulations.

Objective

The objective of this policy is to:

- To ensure that The Very Group meets its sustainability commitments, targets, and legal obligations with regards to timber products
- Set out our sourcing requirements for suppliers
- Clearly communicate how we categorise the timber we source

This policy applies to all suppliers, manufacturers, agents, and sourcing operations engaged in supplying The Very Group.

Scope

This policy applies to all Very Group **own brand** products made of, or containing, the following:

- Solid timber
- Components or parts made of timber and/or paper
- Timber composites such as MDF and particleboard
- Recycled material



Not currently included in the scope this policy:

- Non-timber forest products
- Goods not for resale
- Packaging

Requirements

Each timber product and the material used to manufacture them are assessed to determine their timber policy category:

Legal - In-house verification

Responsible - In-house verification

Sustainable – Certified through a recognised scheme (FSC®)

The Very Group expects all existing, and any future suppliers, to align with the expectations set out in this policy

The category **Legal** is our current minimum requirement. **By 2025** we aim to only source products which are assessed as **Sustainable (Certified)**

Our requirements table sets out clear expectations for our suppliers, manufacturers, agents, and sourcing operations as well as the role we will play in ensuring policy compliance.

Requirements	
Legal (minimum)	<p>All suppliers of products containing timber must continually demonstrate traceability and be able to prove that the timber used was Legally harvested including compliance with the applicable legislation in the country of origin and in-line with the EU Timber Regulation (995/2010), UK Timber regulation (UKTR) and UK FLEGT.</p> <p>The Very Group will help and support suppliers to ensure that all products contain legal timber.</p>
Responsible Sources	<p>To categorise timber products as Responsible, suppliers must be able to demonstrate legal compliance and that the timber was not harvested from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forests where high conservation is threatened or conversion is taking place for plantations or non-forest use <p>For recycled timber suppliers must demonstrate full traceability and proof the materials are from recycled sources.</p> <p>The Very Group will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mitigate risks identified by working with suppliers and making changes to our supply chains - Products do not contain species listed on CITES Appendix I or IUCN Critically Endangered list - Products only contain species listed on CITES Appendix II & III or IUCN endangered and vulnerable list if accompanied by applicable CITES licenses and sourced as FSC® certified - Verify timber as recycled material, if declared as such by our supplier
Sustainable Sources	<p>We are committed to sourcing our timber products as FSC® certified.</p> <p>Suppliers must be able to demonstrate that the timber source comes one of our identified Certification Schemes with an intact Chain of Custody.</p> <p>To categorise timber products as Sustainable (Certified) The Very Group will verify that the following requirements are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Product carries a valid FSC® certification claim and code on the contract - In addition, a random sample of certified products shall be selected for full UKTR /EUTR due diligence risk assessment to ensure the integrity of the certification claims
2022	2025
<p>Target - 100% FSC®/Recycled Timber by 2025</p>	





Monitoring

We will monitor and assess our supply chains containing timber and will take a risk-based approach to ensure supplier compliance with our policy and commitments.

The Very Group will:

- Require suppliers to disclose their timber sources and submit all relevant information and supporting documentation to help demonstrate compliance
- Provide training and additional guidance to our Category teams and suppliers on the implementation of this policy and its implications
- Review and update this policy periodically

Reporting

The Very Group will annually record and measure progress towards achieving our ambition, and report results publicly.

Policy Version	Published	Endorsed	Next Review
2.0	April 2022	Stuart Wharton	April 2023
3.0	October 2022	Stuart Wharton	April 2023