Mighton Products WPC FAQ

Q: What is WPC?

WPC stands for Wood-Plastic Composite, a material made from natural wood fibers combined with plastic for added stability and durability.

Q: Why is WPC used in sash windows?

- Prevents warping, swelling, and twisting caused by moisture
- Provides long-term stability in exposed areas
- Reduces maintenance while keeping a traditional appearance

Q: What are the key advantages of using WPC

- **No knots, voids, or imperfections**.
- **Stable dimensional behaviour** — no warping before/during assembly.
- **Clean, consistent finish** that shortens fabrication time.
- Ideal for **repeatable manufacture** of sash sections.
- **No grain direction**, so machining is predictable.

Q: Which window parts do you stock in WPC?

- Parting Bead
- Staff Bead
- Glazing Bead

Q: What is FSC and does your WPC product carry it?

FSC stands for Forest Stewardship Council. It certifies wood products that come from responsibly managed forests. Our WPC contains wood fiber and is FSC certified.

Q: Does WPC look like timber?

WPC has no grain and has to be painted, once painted, it looks identical

Q: Will WPC affect the traditional look of my windows?

No. WPC is used in hidden or structural areas that do not change the visible design.

Q: Is WPC allowed in conservation areas?

Usually yes. Exterior appearance remains timber, so planning approval is rarely affected. You will need to check.

Q: Is WPC better than timber?

Timber provides traditional beauty, while WPC adds strength and moisture resistance. Used together, they create a high-performance sash window.

Q: Will WPC reduce maintenance?

Yes. It helps prevent rotting, swelling, sticking sashes, and distortion.

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Q: Where in the window is WPC used?

Typically, in exterior-facing sash components or moisture-prone areas for improved durability.

Q: Why don't all manufacturers use WPC?

It is a more advanced construction method, and many traditional manufacturers have not yet adopted it.

Q: Can WPC be worked with joinery tools?

Yes, WPC is very joiner friendly. In most cases, it can be handled **almost exactly like timber**, but with a few small adjustments that improve finish, accuracy, and tool life.

Cutting

- Can be cut with **standard saws** (table saws, mitre saws, chop saws)
- Use **fine-tooth blades** (carbide-tipped recommended) for smoother edges.
- Produces **less splintering** than hardwood.
- Cuts are clean and precise due to the material's stability.

Planing & Sanding

- Can be planed using normal electric or hand planers.
- Light, controlled passes give the best surface finish.
- Sands very smoothly — use **120–180 grit** for most work.
- Does not chip or tear out like some hardwoods.

Drilling & Fixings

- Drills easily using standard wood drill bits.
- Screws can be used - **but pre-drilling is recommended**
- Pins and nails can be used to secure the product

Machining (CNC, routers, spindle moulders)

- As the product has a hard shell with softer inner, we don't advise machining it as this will leave exposures edges

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Heat & Melting Considerations

- WPC contains polymers, so:
    - Avoid **high-speed friction** that can cause melting or “feathering”.
    - Use **sharp drills** and **moderate feed speeds**.
- Not an issue in normal joinery, just good practice.

Bonding & Gluing

- Bonds with:
    - PU adhesive (Polyurethane)
    - Hybrid polymer adhesives
    - Some PVA types (check manufacturer recommendation)
- PU generally gives the **strongest and most reliable bond**.

Nailing & Stapling

- Accepts nails and brads normally.
- Pneumatic Nail Guns work well.
- Because WPC is denser than softwood, **adjust nail gun pressure** slightly higher for full penetration.

Finishing

- Can be:
    - Water-based paints – will work with Mighton Exterior Joinery Paints
    - Always seal the ends and any open pores with our end grain sealer to prevent moisture uptake prior to spraying or painting