

What is mass timber?

Mass timber uses state-of-the-art technology to glue, nail or dowel wood products together. The results are large structural panels, posts and beams that are exceptionally strong and versatile. If the primary load-bearing structure is made of solid or engineered wood, it's a mass timber building.

Cross-laminated timber (CLT)

CLT is made by layering dimension lumber at 90° angles. Each layer is glued together to form structural panels with high dimensional stability.



Dowel-laminated timber (DLT)

DLT is created by stacking dimension lumber on edge or cross-laminating, friction-fit together with hardwood dowels. DLT is all-wood—without metal fasteners or adhesives.



Nail-laminated timber (NLT)

NLT is created by stacking dimension lumber on its edge and fastening together with nails or screws. It can be site built or fabricated off-site.



Glue-laminated timber (Glulam or GLT)

Glulam is composed of dimension lumber bonded together with durable, moisture-resistant adhesives. The grain of all laminations runs parallel with the member length.



Laminated strand lumber (LSL)

To make LSL, thin strands of wood are aligned parallel to the member length and glued together.



Laminated veneer lumber (LVL)

LVL is made of veneers, glued together so the grain of each veneer is parallel to the length.



Parallel strand lumber (PSL)

PSL is manufactured from veneers clipped into long strands, laid in a parallel formation, and bonded together with an adhesive.



Key advantages

- **Strong:** Mass timber can be used to supplement or replace steel or concrete as a structural solution.
- **Safe:** Mass timber building systems are proven to meet or exceed code requirements.
- **Sustainable:** B.C.'s forests are sustainably managed so we can rely on timber supply for generations.

Information adapted from APA – The Engineered Wood Association

Learn about mass timber in B.C.
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Sustainable by Nature. Innovative by Design.