

porta

Porta Cumaru deck replacement with Bowens timber experts.

Project Details

Bowens were interested to learn more about Porta Cumaru, a new Class 1 hardwood. Frank Di Stefano and Jeff Harvey from Bowens partnered with Project Logic, founded by Damien Collins, on a deck replacement project. Their objective was to understand the durability, workability and aesthetics of the Porta Cumaru hardwood range.

Frank worked closely with Damien and his carpenter, Ben Chadwick, to analyse the features of the timber. The project involved replacing the front and back decks of a renovated Victorian house in Richmond. Because Porta Cumaru is also popular for use as outdoor furniture, and able to withstand the weather, it was also chosen to replace an old embedded seat in the rear garden to tie everything together. Everyone was keen to see how Porta Cumaru would compare against traditional Australian hardwoods.

We're really **excited** about using **Cumaru** from the **inside** through to the **outside**. The **longevity** of using **Cumaru outside** is going to be **fantastic**; on a **deck** or around a **swimming pool** for example. We're really **comfortable** about using it on **future projects**."

Damien Collins – Founder, Architect & Builder, Project Logic



The Verdict

The team concluded that Porta Cumaru is an excellent choice for their businesses. Bowens confirmed that Cumaru is, "Easy to work with, is versatile and attractive." Frank highlights that, "Having the opportunity to stock an innovative timber like Porta Cumaru gives us the option to offer an alternative to our builders".

Damien notes that, "Porta sells a nice wide thick board (145x21mm). It provides very good coverage and there was zero waste. We had absolutely nothing to throw away on this job. There were no knots in it, no leaching, there were no problems." Ben was also excited

that Porta Cumaru, "Could be very useful for window sills where bleeding is often an issue."

According to Damien, one of the most appealing things about Porta Cumaru is that it has an interesting grain pattern and colour, "Because of the interlocked nature of the grain, it catches the light in different ways from different angles. At any one time, you get a different perspective on the timber." This structure contributes to its durability as well as being an extremely dense timber with 1085 kg/m³.