

Choices, choices...

Natural hardwood signs or PVC timber signs? This used to be an easy decision: natural hardwood was chosen for its top quality image, whereas plastic was ideal where budget mattered more than presentation.

Then Eagle's new Eagle-Plex arrived and its innovative chemical structure led many club and course managers to see a black-stained oak sign, whereas it was in fact Eagle's new and realistic PVC timber material. We sort out the strengths and misconceptions in pursuit of clarity.



Natural Timber

Presentation:

Widely agreed to be the best material for a natural setting like a golf course, with a range of stains to suit different environments, e.g., links, heathland, parkland etc, has the edge when it comes to attracting sponsors looking for quality exposure.

Design:

Hardwood timber can be made to any design specification, and Eagle's standard range is comprehensive. Bespoke requirements are encouraged as Eagle have their own machining and finishing plant.

Substrate:

The experience gained in operating and managing their own timber plant has led to the utilisation of Iroko hardwood – which has proved to be the most stable of timbers for all outdoor situations, well able to last 25 years even if in contact with the ground.

Graphics:

Natural timber signs looks great with all substrates, zinc, granite and aluminium. Engraved and paint-filled course information is also very distinctive.

Maintenance:

The Teknos two coat system has reduced maintenance needs dramatically. The Teknos base coat chemically impregnates the skin of the timber, forming a perfect base for the top, water-based coat, ensuring far longer lifetime.



Eagle-Plex

Presentation:

Eagle-Plex's appearance is highly realistic with its 'wood grained' finish. Eagle-Plex signs and furniture are only available in black, but this still suits any course environment. Certainly good enough for sponsorship requirements.

Design:

PVC Timber has to be moulded, but Eagle have a large range of profiles available ensuring different sizes of sign frame which cannot be differentiated from old Oak.

Substrate:

The raw material is shredded and subjected to iron separation and made ready for injection moulding. The required volume of plastic material is poured into an Eagle mold and brought into the desired shape by hydraulic pressure to avoid warping. The results create super strong profiles ready for any environment, however harsh.

Graphics:

Like natural timber, Eagle-Plex works and looks great with aluminium plates. This option is not as size sensitive and therefore larger structures are very cost effective.

Maintenance:

None, other than 'keep it clean' with an occasional wipe with a damp cloth.

Installation:

Just make the holes for the posts and set them in concrete. All hardwood timber posts are sleeved with re-enforced plastic to maximise their protection.

Sustainability:

Genuinely sustainable hardwoods can only be sourced from certain licensed countries. Eagle takes great care that only officially licensed Iroko is used from forests where the trees that are cut down are being replaced accordingly.

Cost:

Due to the cost of sustainable hardwoods and the need for well equipped craftsmen to maximise the resulting furniture/signs' appearance, the cost is higher than PVC timber.

Installation:

Eagle-Plex can simply be concreted into the ground and it will last forever.

Sustainability:

The Eagle-Plex product is 100% eco-friendly. Being chemically inert, Eagle-Plex signs cannot contaminate the environment in which they are utilised.

Cost:

As you'd expect, PVC Timber is significantly cheaper than natural hardwood, and with zero-cost maintenance, it's ideal for those who want both presentation and cost-effectiveness.



Anything else?

Guarantees

Both products have the 'Eagle Performance Guarantee' which ensures all products are of the highest quality. Feel free to ask Eagle about their guarantees in relation to hardwood and Eagle-Plex signage.

Take the Eagle signage test

So, with all that to think about, do you think you know quality timber when you see it, or can you tell the difference between Eagle-Plex and black stained oak? In fact your best decision is simple: **call Eagle on 01883 344 244**, see both types of signage material for yourself, and make up your own mind as to which type best suits your own course and clubhouse signage needs.

Of course, Eagle's team of experts will be happy to bring these samples round to your club, take you and your committee through their respective merits, put you in touch with other highly satisfied customers of Eagle in your area, and help you arrive at the best decision for your golf club and course.

