

Hardwoods: Beech



Trade Name:	Beech – European
Botanical Species:	Fagus sylvatica
Other Names:	English, Danish, German, etc., Beech according to origin.
Country of Origin:	European countries
Air Dry Density:	690kgs/m ³
Durability:	Non-durable
Colour:	Light
Strength:	8 (on a scale from 1 – 10)

Seasoning:

- Dries fairly rapidly but tends to warp, twist, check and split.
- Steaming which reduces the tension in the timber is normally introduced.
- This process however colours the timber to pink / red.

Characteristics:

- No clear distinction between heartwood and sapwood by colour, which varies from cream to pink / red depending on the amount of steaming the timber is given.
- The wood is typically straight grained with a fine even texture but varying in density according to the locality of growth.

Working Qualities:

- Works well and is capable of good smooth surfaces. Good turning and bending properties.

Uses:

- Works well and is capable of good smooth surfaces. Good turning and bending properties.
- Used extensively in Europe for domestic woodware, tool handles and flooring.
- Produces good veneer.

Product Attributes:

- Consistent colour, pale pink.
- Machines and turns well.
- Good bending properties.
- Straight grained with a fine even texture.
- Stains and polishes satisfactorily.

- Veneers available.

Product Limitations

- Will discolour to pale yellow with time.
- Graded similar to American standards.
- Generally narrow with no fixed widths.
- Lengths seldom above 3.0m.