

• TIMBER SPECIES DATASHEET •

BEECH

(Fagus)



★ Wood Type	Hardwood
★ Durability	Class 4 - Not durable
★ Average Service Life	5-15 years (without treatment)
★ Treatability	Moderately easy
★ Moisture Movement	Moderate
★ Density (mean, Kg/m³)	670-720
★ Texture	Fine and even
★ Use(s)	Furniture, Cabinetry, Flooring, Millwork, Toys, Kitchenware
★ Colour(s)	Pale, pinkish-white to light brown

Environmental

Beech wood (*Fagus sylvatica*) is not typically listed on the IUCN Red List. It is generally available from responsibly managed sources. However, it's essential to verify the certification with suppliers to ensure sustainable harvesting.

The Tree

Beech trees are medium to large, often reaching heights of 25 to 35 meters. They have straight, cylindrical trunks with a smooth, light gray bark. The tree produces simple, ovate leaves and is valued for both its wood and beech nuts.

Drying

Beech wood dries well with minimal risk of defects if properly managed. It is important to control the drying process to prevent issues like warping or checking.

Working Qualities

Beech wood is relatively easy to work with due to its straight grain and even texture. It machines, cuts, and planes smoothly, making it a favorite among woodworkers. Beech takes stains, finishes, and paints well, showcasing its elegant appearance.

Distribution

Beech wood is native to Europe, particularly in countries like Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. It is also cultivated in various regions around the world. The beech tree is known for its high-quality timber and is a common hardwood in Europe.

The Timber

Beech wood is known for its pale, pinkish-white to light brown color with a fine, even texture. The wood typically has a straight grain, making it highly versatile and sought after for its uniform appearance. Beech is moderately heavy and durable.

Strength

Beech wood is appreciated for its strength and durability. It is a robust and stable wood that is suitable for various applications, particularly in furniture and cabinetry.