

# • TIMBER SPECIES DATASHEET •

# OAK

(Quercus)



★ Wood Type	Hardwood
★ Durability	Class 2 - Durable
★ Average Service Life	20-25 years (without treatment)
★ Treatability	Moderately easy
★ Moisture Movement	Moderate
★ Density (mean, Kg/m³)	640-720
★ Texture	Coarse
★ Use(s)	Furniture, Flooring, Cabinetry, Millwork, Boat Building
★ Colour(s)	Pale to medium brown with a prominent grain pattern

## Environmental

Oak wood (*Quercus* spp.) is not typically listed on the IUCN Red List. It is often available from responsibly managed sources, and sustainable forestry practices are commonly in place to ensure responsible harvesting.

## The Tree

Oak trees are large, reaching heights of up to 20-40 meters, depending on the species. They have straight, cylindrical trunks and produce simple, lobed leaves. Oak trees are known for their valuable timber and are often associated with longevity and strength.

## Drying

Oak 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

Oak wood is relatively easy to work with due to its straight grain and coarse texture. It machines, cuts, and planes smoothly, making it popular among woodworkers. Oak takes stains, finishes, and polishes well, allowing for various design possibilities.

## Distribution

Oak wood is native to various parts of the world, including North America, Europe, and Asia. It is widely cultivated and highly regarded for its high-quality timber, making it one of the most popular hardwoods globally.

## The Timber

Oak wood is known for its pale to medium brown color, often with a prominent grain pattern. It has a coarse texture and typically features a straight, interlocked, or sometimes wavy grain. The wood is moderately heavy and exceptionally durable.

## Strength

Oak wood is appreciated for its exceptional strength and durability. It is a robust and stable wood that can endure heavy use, particularly in furniture and flooring applications.