

• TIMBER SPECIES DATASHEET •

SPRUCE

(Picea)



★ Wood Type	Softwood
★ Durability	Class 4 - Not durable
★ Average Service Life	10-15 years (without treatment)
★ Treatability	Easy
★ Moisture Movement	Low
★ Density (mean, Kg/m³)	400-500
★ Texture	Fine and even
★ Use(s)	Framing, Construction, Cabinetry, Musical Instruments
★ Colour(s)	Pale to light yellow or white

Environmental

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

The Tree

Spruce trees vary in size and shape depending on the specific species but are generally tall and straight. They have conical crowns, and their branches grow horizontally, producing needle-like leaves. Spruce trees are primarily known for their timber.

Drying

Spruce wood is known for its light color, typically pale to light yellow or white, with a fine texture and a straight, even grain. The wood is lightweight and relatively soft compared to many other hardwoods, making it popular for a variety of applications.

Working Qualities

Spruce wood is easy to work with due to its straight grain and fine texture. It machines, cuts, and planes smoothly, making it popular among woodworkers. Spruce takes stains, finishes, and paints well, and it is commonly used in cabinetry, construction, and musical instruments.

Distribution

Spruce wood is native to North America, Europe, and Asia. Various spruce species are found throughout these regions and are valued for their high-quality timber. They are one of the most widely distributed and economically important softwoods.

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Strength

Spruce wood is not as hard as many hardwoods but is appreciated for its strength and workability. It is strong for a softwood and is commonly used in construction and woodworking.