SAPELE

Entandrophragma cylindricum

Sapele is a premium African hardwood prized for its exceptional durability, strength, and distinctive grain character. Primarily sourced from the tropical forests of West Africa, Sapele is especially recognized for its dramatic interlocking grain, which reveals a beautiful, shimmering ribbon-like figure when quarter-sawn. Its heartwood ranges from warm golden-brown to rich, deep reddish-brown, offering a sophisticated appearance that becomes even more striking with a quality finish. Compared to traditional mahogany, Sapele is denser, harder, and more resistant to dents and everyday wear, while also providing excellent natural resistance to decay. Sapele is commonly used for fine furniture, exterior doors, and architectural millwork.



Surfaced



Surfaced and clear coat

Harvested In:
Tropical Africa

Family:
MELIACEAE (angiosperm)

WOOD DESCRIPTION

Color:	*Red brown*
Sapwood:	*Clearly Demarcated*
Texture:	*Fine*
Grain:	*Interlocked*

CHARACTERISTICS

- Easy to work
- Moderately durable
- Resistant to termites

COMMON USES

- Cabinetwork
- Millwork / Moulding
- Sliced veneer
- Paneling (interior)
- Joinery (interior / exterior)
- Stairs (interior)
- Furniture and Furniture components
- Light carpentry

AVAILABILITY

- Select & Better
- Mixed Grain, Quarter Sawn, Plain Sawn
- 4/4, 5/4, 6/4, 8/4, 10/4, 12/4, 16/4 Thicknesses

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PHYSICAL / MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Air Dry Density	*3.8 lbs/bf*
Specific Gravity:	*0.67*
Janka Hardness (lbs):	*1,410*
Volumetric Shrinkage:	*12.8%*
Total Tangential Shrinkage (TS):	*7.2%*
Total Radial Shrinkage (RS):	*4.8%*
TS/RS Ratio:	*1.5*

Fiber Saturation Point:	*29%*
Crushing Strength:	*8,992 lbf/in²*
Static Bending Strength:	*14,793 lbf/in²*
Modulus of Elasticity:	*2,024,726 lbf/in²*
Stability:	*Moderate*

** Based on 12% Moisture Content*

WORKING / FINISHING PROPERTIES

Blunting Effect:	*Normal*
Sawteeth Recommended:	*Ordinary / Alloy steel*
Cutting Tools:	*Ordinary*
Peeling:	*Good*

Slicing:	*Good*
Nailing / Screwing:	*Good*
Gluing:	*Good*

Note: Gluing must be done carefully. Wood may be easily stained.



