

Iroko (*Milicia excelsa*)



Growth area: Tropical Africa.

Trees: The straight cylindrical branch free trunk is 15 – 28m long and can reach a diameter of about 80 cm.

Description: The unseasoned heartwood has a yellowish till brown yellowish colour, sometimes with darkbrown zones. The wood discolours to goldenbrown till darkbrown. The light coloured sapwood is 5 – 10 cm wide and can clearly be distinguished from the heartwood.

Texture/Figure: Straight grain and interlocked grain, rarely wavy grain. Moderately fine texture.

Smell/Taste: No specific smell or taste.

Machining: Is easy to machine. With sharp tools a smooth surface can be obtained.

Gluing: Well.

Drying: Moderately quick. The woods need to be kilned carefully as the interlocked grain can cause cracking and deformations. Stickers need to be of the same species to avoid discolourations.

Fixation: Keeps nails and screws well, pre-drilling is necessary. In contact with iron black discolourations do occur.

Durability: Class I/II.

Density: Unseasoned: 950 - 1200 kg / m³; Moisture content 12%: 650 (470 - 850) kg / m³

Shrinkage: Radial: 3,3%; Tangential: 5,1% (till oven-dry, in general less than this)

Bending strength: 94 N/mm² (Moisture content 12-15%, measurement till rupture)

Modulus of Elasticity: 10900 N/mm² (Vochtgehalte 12-15%)

Applications: Interior- and exterior joinery works, window frames, doors, claddings, stairs, furniture, ship-building, sculptures, veneer.

