

Sapele (*Entandrophragma cylindricum*)



Growth area: Western and Central Africa.

Trees: The straight cylindrical branch free trunk is on average 20 – 30m in length and has a diameter of about 100cm, depending on the age and height of the tree.



Description: The heartwood is pinkred, later discolouring to redbrown. The easily to distinguish sapwood of about 6 – 8 cm wide is pink yellowish pink of colour. The interlocked grain causes a straight grained figure.

Texture/Figure: Straight grain, but also interlocked grain. Coarse texture.

Smell/Taste: Smells like cedar.

Machining: Is easy to machine. Due to the interlocked grain an angle of the tools at planing is needed to avoid machine hit.

Gluing: Well.

Drying: Moderately quick with possibility to bend, cup and crack.

Fixation: Keeps nails and screws well. In contact with iron the wood discolours bluegrey.

Durability: Class III.

Density: Unseasoned: 850 - 900 kg / m³; Moisture content 12%: 690 (600 - 750) kg / m³

Shrinkage: Radial: 5,3%; Tangential: 7,2% (till oven-dry, in general less than this)

Bending strength: 105 N/mm² (Moisture content 12-15%, measurement till rupture)

Modulus of Elasticity: 12500 N/mm² (Moisture content 12-15%)

Applications: Interior joinery works, furniture, piano- and organs, ship- building, stairs, parquet, turnery, sculptures, veneer for indoor doors.