

SUGI

JAPANESE CEDAR



FACT SHEET

SUGI

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Cryptomeria Japonica

JANKA HARDNESS

320 lbf (1,420 N)

WEIGHT (DRIED)

23 lbs/ft³ (360 kg/m³)

COMMON USES

Siding, paneling, furniture, fences, boatbuilding, and small specialty items.

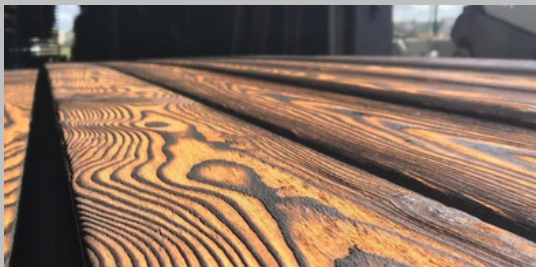
USUALLY

AVAILABLE AS

ROUGH SAWN BOARDS
FENCING
DECKING
FLOORING

POPULAR SIZES

15mm X 140mm X 1830mm;
19mm x 140mm x 1830mm;
17mm x 140mm x 1830mm;
17mm x 184mm x 1830mm;
17mm x 184mm x 2438mm;



SUGI

JAPANESE CEDAR



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FULL DESCRIPTION

Common Name(s): Sugi, Japanese Cedar

Scientific Name: *Cryptomeria japonica*

Distribution: Endemic to Japan; commonly grown on plantations within Asia

Tree Size: 100-165 ft (30-50 m) tall, 6-10 ft (2-3 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 23 lbs/ft³ (360 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .33, .36

Janka Hardness: 320 lbf (1,420 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 5,280 lbf/in² (36.4 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 1,109,000 lbf/in² (7.65 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 4,060 lbf/in² (28.0 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 2.1%, Tangential: 6.8%, Volumetric: 10.5%, T/R Ratio: 3.2



Color/Appearance: Heartwood is typically reddish brown. Sapwood is straw colored and clearly demarcated from the heartwood. Knots are common. Sometimes the wood is traditionally charred black (increasing its fire and rot resistance) using a Japanese technique known as shou sugi ban; such flame-treated planks are commonly used as siding.

Workability: Generally easy to work with hand or machine tools, though knotty areas can be troublesome. Responds poorly to steam bending. Glues, stains, and finishes well.

Comments: Sometimes called Japanese Cedar, the wood is in the Cupressaceae family, which includes many cedar-like species. Like most cedars, the wood is soft, light, aromatic, and resistant to decay. Sugi is a commercially important softwood species within Japan, and is commercially grown for many construction purposes. According to legend, in the early 1600s there was a feudal lord in Japan who was too poor to donate a stone or bronze lantern at the funeral of the deceased shogun. Instead, he proposed to plant a row of trees along the avenue which led to the temple where the shogun was buried. These trees still line the path to the temple, and are considered some of the most stately and impressive displays of trees in all of Japan.

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