

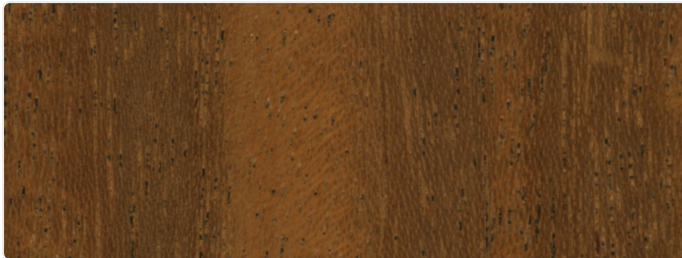
KHAYA / AFRICAN MAHOGANY

Technical Wood Sheet (Khaya spp.)

Family: Meliaceae | **Continent:** Africa

Botanical Name(s): Khaya anthotheca, Khaya grandifoliola, Khaya ivorensis, Khaya klainei (synonymous).

CITES: The species of the genus Khaya are listed in Appendix II of CITES (Washington Convention 2025). Only African populations are concerned. Products concerned: logs, sawn wood, veneer, plywood and engineered wood.



DESCRIPTION OF LOGS

Diameter	From 80 to 120 cm
Thickness of sapwood	From 3 to 8 cm
Floats	Yes
Log durability	Moderate (treatment recommended)

DESCRIPTION OF WOOD

Colour reference	Red brown
Sapwood	Clearly demarcated
Texture	Medium
Grain	Interlocked
Interlocked grain	Slight

Notes: Sometimes, presence of tension wood and brittleheart. Wood pink brown to deep red with copper reflection.

PHYSICS AND MECHANICS

Values for mature wood at 12% moisture content. 1 MPa = 1 N/mm²

Property	Avg. value
Specific gravity	0.57
Monnin hardness	2.5
Coef. volumetric shrinkage	0.39 % / %
Total tangential shrinkage (St)	5.5 %
Total radial shrinkage (Sr)	3.7 %
Ratio St/Sr	1.5
Fibre saturation point	28 %
Thermal conductivity (λ)	0.20 W/(m.K)
Crushing strength	46 MPa
Static bending strength	77 MPa
Modulus of elasticity	11,820 MPa

PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT REQUIREMENT

Against dry wood borers	Not required
Temp. humidification	Requires appropriate preservative treatment
Perm. humidification	Use not recommended

SAWING AND MACHINING

Blunting effect	Normal
Sawteeth recommended	Ordinary or alloy steel
Cutting tools	Ordinary
Peeling / Slicing	Good / Good

Notes: Tendency to woolliness (tension wood) in sawing. Risks of tearing (interlocked grain) in planing. Ribbon like aspect on quartersawn. Dusts can cause irritation.

ASSEMBLING

Nailing and screwing	Good
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COMMERCIAL GRADING

Appearance grading for sawn timbers. According to the ATIBT grading rules (2017), the main choices are: FAS (First And Second), n°1 Common and select, n°2 Common (see on the ATIBT website: <https://www.atibt.org/files/upload/technical-publications/Contrats-et-usages-Bois-tropicaux/PAMPHLET-3-MAIN-GRADING-RULES-FOR-SAWN-TROPICAL-TIMBER.pdf>). Visual grading for structural applications No visual grading for structural applications

DRYING

Drying rate	Rapid
Risk of distortion	Slight risk
Risk of casehardening	No known specific risk
Risk of checking	Slight risk
Risk of collapse	No known specific risk

Notes: Risks of distortion may increase in presence of tension wood or interlocked grain occasionally high. KHAYA / AFRICAN MAHOGANY

FIRE SAFETY

Thickness > 14 mm	M3 (mod. inflammable)
Thickness < 14 mm	M4 (easily inflammable)
Euroclasses grading	D-s2, d0

MAIN LOCAL NAMES

Angola	N'dola
Angola Undia	nunu
Benin	Kaju
Cameroon	Mangona / N'gollon
Central African Republic	Déké
Congo (Republic of)	N'dola
Côte d'Ivoire Acajou	bassam / blanc
Côte d'Ivoire	Krala
Equatorial Guinea Caoba del	galon
Equatorial Guinea	Zamanguila
France (importated tropical timber) Acajou	bassam / blanc / d'afrique
Gabon	Zaminguila
Germany (importated tropical timber) Khaya	mahogan i
Ghana African	mahogany
Ghana	Ahafo
Ghana Takoradi	mahogany
Nigeria	Akuk / Ogwango
Nigeria Benin	mahogany
Uganda Eri	kire
Uganda	Munyama
United Kingdom (importated tropical timber) African	m a h o g a

United Kingdom (importated tropical timber) Heavy african m

END-USES

Cabinetwork Current furniture or furniture components

Exterior joinery Exterior panelling Interior joinery

Interior panelling Light carpentry Open boats

Ship building (planking and deck) Sliced veneer

Veneer for back or face of plywood