



REDWOOD

Sequoia sempervirens



Source: Salvaged old growth, reclaimed/recycled, select harvested through sustainable forestry

Region: Coastal northwestern United States, from central California to southwestern Oregon

Grain/Texture: Grain is generally straight, though figured pieces may be wavy or irregular. Curly figure or Redwood burl is also occasionally available. Redwood has a coarse texture and low natural luster. Full sawn, fine grain, vertical grain.

Color: Heartwood color can range from a light pinkish brown to deep reddish brown. Sapwood is a pale white/yellow.

Qualities: Redwood is very soft and lightweight, with a decent strength-to-weight ratio. It is also exceptionally stable, with very little shrinkage or seasonal movement. It is moderately durable to very durable regarding decay resistance. Lumber from old-growth trees tends to be more durable than that from younger second-growth trees.

Uses: Ceiling, siding, veneer, construction lumber, beams, posts, decking, exterior furniture, and trim. Burls and other forms of figured Redwood are also used in turning, musical instruments, and other small specialty items. Live edge slab material is used for counters and tables.

Sustainability Info: Extremely vulnerable due to loss of habitat and exploitation.

Interesting Facts: John Steinbeck wrote about the redwood, "The redwoods, once seen, leave a mark or create a vision that stays with you always." The redwood species contains the largest and tallest trees in the world. Capable of attaining heights of nearly 400 feet, these trees can live to an extremely old age. Average tree size ranges from 200-300 ft tall and a 6-12ft trunk diameter. It grows in a very limited area on the Pacific coast of northwestern United States, where heavy rainfall and cool, damp air create a unique environment for these trees.