



SAPELE

Entandrophragma cylindricum



Source: Select harvested through sustainable forestry

Region: Tropical Africa

Grain/Texture: Quarter sawn boards have a ribbon pattern. Sapele is also known for a wide variety of figured grain patterns; pommele, quilted, mottled, wavy, beeswing, and fiddleback. The grain is interlocked with a fine uniform texture and natural luster.

Color: Heartwood is a medium to dark reddish brown or purplish brown. Color tends to darken with age.

Qualities: A dense wood. Heartwood ranges from moderately durable to very durable in regard to decay resistance. Sapele is susceptible to insect attack.

Uses: Veneer, plywood, furniture, cabinetry, flooring, boatbuilding, musical instruments and turned objects. It is used as a substitute for Genuine Mahogany.

Sustainability Info: Popularity has taken its toll and Western Africa is recovering from unregulated harvesting. Some areas now grow Sapele in plantations. Awareness has led to strict controls, certifications and responsible harvesting.

Interesting Facts: Cadillac uses Sapele for the interior wood trim on their vehicles.