








Timber Chooser Chart

Different timbers have different properties. Use the chooser chart below to help you choose which timber is best for your design.

Timber	red deal	balsa	mahogany	jelutong	ash	beech	oak
Type	softwood	tropical hardwoods			temperate hardwoods		
Source	Canada, Scandinavia	Central & South America	West Africa & Central America	South-east Asia	America & Europe	Europe	North America & Europe
Commercial use	buildings, fitting	modelling, boats	furniture	pattern, model making	furniture, sports goods	work-benches	furniture
Disposal	most timbers can be re-used, all are bio-degradable						

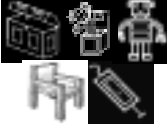

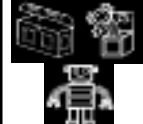

Timber Chooser Chart (cont'd)

Timber	red deal	balsa	mahogany	jelutong	ash	beech	oak
Durability	●●	●	●●●	●●	●●●●●	●●●●●	●●
Relative price/£	●●	●●●●●	●●●●	●●●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●●●
Ease of sourcing	●●●●●	●●●●	●●●	●●	●●	●●	●●
Hardness (how difficult it is to scratch)	●●	●	●●	●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
Strength (how difficult it is to break)	●●	●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
Density (how heavy it is)	●●	●	●●●	●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●
Modulus of elasticity (how difficult it is to stretch)	●●●	●	●●●●	●●	●●●●●	●●●●●	●●●●
Stability (how well it keeps shape)	●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
School uses							
Ease of working	○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○	○ ○ ○	○ ○

Key: ● = the more ●, the greater the value of the property; ○ = the more ○, the easier the timber is to use

Modified Timber Chooser Chart

Use the Chooser Chart below to decide which is the best modified timber to use for your design.

Modified timber	plywood	East Asian plywood	marine plywood	blockboard	chipboard	medium density fibreboard	hardboard
Description	birch-faced plywood to a high quality	stout-heart plywood	marine plywood made to a high quality	solid timber core faced with veneers	chippings glued and pressed into a sheet	fibres glued and pressed into a sheet	fibres steamed and pressed into a sheet
Source	Scandinavia	East Asia	East Asia	Scandinavia & East Asia	Central Europe	Britain & Central Europe	Central Europe
Commercial uses	high quality furniture	building trade panels	boat building	high quality furniture	flooring panels	knock down furniture framework	packaging & panels on furniture
Durability	●●	●●	●●●●●	●●●	●●	●●	●
Exterior grade	●●●●	●●●●				●●●●	
Relative price/£	●●●●	●●●	●●●	●●	●	●	●
Ease of sourcing	●●●●	●●●●●	●	●●	●●●●●	●●●●	●●●●●
Thickness available	1 - 25 mm	4 - 25 mm	4 - 25 mm	12 - 25 mm	3 - 25 mm	2 - 50 mm	3 - 6 mm
Strength	●●●	●●	●●●	●●●	●●●●	●●●●●	●●●
Density	●●●●	●●●	●●●●●	●●●●	●●	●●●	●
School uses		large panels & bases	boat building		large panels & bases		stage sets 

Key: ● = the more ●, the greater the value of the property