



SPOTTED GUM

(Corymbia maculata, Corymbia citriodora and Corymbia henrii)

Spotted gum is one of Australia's premium native hardwoods with a striking appearance and a high degree of natural durability and strength, making it an ideal timber for a variety of structural, exterior and interior applications. Architects and designers throughout the world value spotted gum timbers for their back-sawn grain structure, attractive markings and vibrant colour palette.

Spotted gum is the common name for four species that grow along the east coast of Australia, from northeast Victoria to the northern tablelands of Queensland, with some occurrence in western areas of southern Queensland. Sawn timber from these species is generally available throughout Australia. These species have straight, slender trunks with smooth bark that is shed in patches, giving the trees their characteristic spotted appearance. The species referred to as spotted gum vary in appearance but not in durability class or other properties.



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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

COLOUR

The heartwood ranges from light brown through to dark red-brown. Sapwood is usually white and up to 50 mm wide.

DENSITY

Unseasoned: 1180KG/m³ Seasoned: 990KG/m³

GRAIN

Moderately coarse textured and variable. Gum veins common. The presence of wavy grain can produce an attractive fiddleback figure.

STRENGTH

S2 unseasoned; SD2 seasoned.

STRUCTURAL RATINGS

F11, F14, F17, F22 (unseasoned), F17, F22, F27, F34 (seasoned)

HARDNESS (JANKA)

10.1kN (Seasoned) & 8.8kN (Unseasoned)

TERMITE RESISTANCE

Resistant

SHRINKAGE TO 12% MC

Tangential 6.1%, radial 4.3%. Plantation-grown (41 years): tangential 5.8%, radial 3.4%.

DURABILITY ABOVE GROUND

High – More than 40 Years

DURABILITY IN GROUND

Reasonably High – 15-25 Years

WORKING PROPERTIES

Spotted gum machines well due to its natural greasiness and there is no difficulty using the timber with standard fittings and fastenings. As with most high-density species, machining and surface preparation should be done immediately before gluing. Spotted gum readily accepts paint, stains and polish. It has a lower tannin content than most other eucalypts, therefore staining of paintwork or brickwork as a result of water running over unpainted timber surfaces is less likely to occur.

USES

Spotted gum has a long history of use in engineering applications such as wharf and bridge construction, railway sleepers, cross-arms and mining timbers. It is used for a variety of applications, including structural building members, such as posts and poles, and for framing, flooring, lining, decking and cladding. It is also used in boatbuilding and is the primary Australian timber used for the handles of tools and implements that are subject to high impact forces. Spotted gum is a suitable carving and woodturning timber and is used in the manufacture of both indoor and outdoor furniture. Outdoor furniture in spotted gum has consistently won industry awards in Australia and is exported to destinations around the world.

USE TIMBER – THE MOST ENVIRONMENTALLY
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