

# A.C. TIMBER SOLUTIONS

## EUROPEAN STEAMED BEECH

<b>Wood Type</b>	Temperate Hardwood
<b>Latin Name</b>	Fagus Sylvatica, L.
<b>Family</b>	Fagaceae
<b>Also known as</b>	English, Danish, French etc., according to country of origin



**Applications:** Cabinetmaking, high-class joinery, solid and laminated furniture, desks and work benches, chairmaking, turnery, musical instruments, domestic flooring, heavy construction, marine piling.

Sliced veneers have an excellent flecked figure on quartered surfaces and broad rays on longitudinal surfaces and are used for decorative veneering.

**Description:** European Beech's heartwood is very pale pink-brown. It is common practice on the continent to steam the timber which turns it to a reddish-brown tone. Some logs have a dark red kern or darker veining. Beech has a straight grain and fine, even texture.

- Weight approx. 720kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Properties:** The steam bending properties are exceptionally good, even tolerant of knots and irregular grain. It has medium stiffness, high crushing strength and medium resistance to shock loads.

**Durability:** The timber is perishable, liable to attack by common furniture beetle and by death watch beetle in old buildings. Sapwood is affected by longhorn beetle. The timber is permeable for preservation treatment.

European Beech dries fairly rapidly, but is classed as moderately refractory tending to warp, check, split and shrink. Care needed in air drying and kilning to avoid shrinkage. When dry there is a large movement in service.

**Availability:** European Steamed Beech is available from AC Timber standard stock in a range of thicknesses from 26mm – 80mm.