

# WOOD IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

## Black Walnut

**PARAMOUNT**

Crafting Exquisite Woodwork Since 1984

**Common Name(s):**

Black walnut, American Walnut

**Scientific Name:**

*Juglans nigra*

**Tree Size:**

100-120 ft (30-37 m) Tall  
2-3 ft Trunk Diameter

**Janka Hardness:**

1,010 lb<sub>f</sub> (6,460 N)

**Modulus of Rupture:**

14,600 lb<sub>f</sub>/in<sup>2</sup> (100.7 MPa)

**Elastic Modulus:**

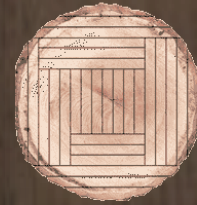
1,680,000 lb<sub>f</sub>/in<sup>2</sup> (11.59 GPa)

**Distribution Area:**

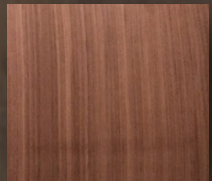
Eastern United States



Plain Sawn



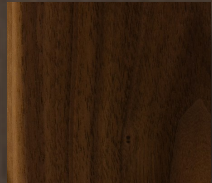
Quarter Sawn



Raw



Sealed



**Color/Appearance:** The heartwood of black walnut wood displays a spectrum of colors, spanning from a light pale brown to a deep chocolate brown, accentuated by darker streaks. Occasionally, hints of grey, purple, or reddish tones may be present. The sapwood, in contrast, exhibits a pale yellow-gray to almost white hue. Additionally, the wood often showcases distinctive grain patterns, including curl, crotch, and burl.

**Grain/Texture:** The grain of black walnut typically follows a straight pattern, though occasional irregularities may be present. It features a medium texture and displays a moderate natural luster.

**Workability:** Generally, working with black walnut wood is straightforward, especially when the grain is straight and uniform. However, when dealing with pieces that have irregular or figured grain, there may be occasional challenges with planer tearout during surfacing. This wood is adept at accepting glues, stains, and finishes, although it's worth noting that walnut is seldom stained. Additionally, black walnut wood responds favorably to steam bending.

It would be hard to overstate black walnut's popularity among woodworkers in the United States. Its good working characteristics, coupled with its rich brown coloration puts the wood in a class by itself among temperate-zone hardwoods. To cap it off, the wood also has good dimensional stability, shock resistance, and strength properties.

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