WOOD IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

White Oak

PARAMOUNT
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Common Name(s):
White Oak

Scientific Name:
Quercus alba

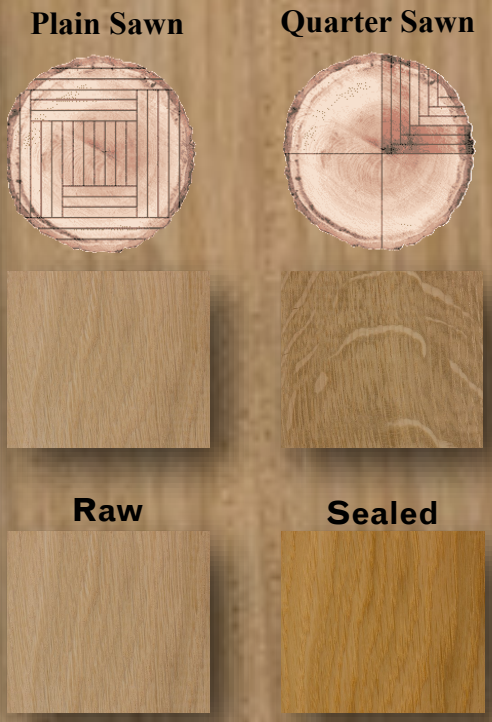
Tree Size:
65-85 ft (20-25 m) Tall
3-4 ft Trunk Diameter

Janka Hardness:
1,350 lb_f (5,990 N)

Modulus of Rupture:
14,830 lb_f/in^2 (102.3 MPa)

Elastic Modulus:
1,762,000 lb_f/in^2 (12.15 GPa)

Distribution Area:
Eastern United States



Color/Appearance: The heartwood of white oak commonly displays a light to medium brown color, frequently accompanied by an olive undertone. The demarcation between the lighter sapwood and the heartwood may not be clearly defined. Quartersawn sections reveal distinctive ray fleck patterns. Although red oak typically tends toward a slightly redder tone rather than an olive hue, relying exclusively on color may not always be a dependable method for identifying the precise oak species.

Grain/Texture: The grain runs straight, exhibiting a coarse and uneven texture.

Workability: White oak exhibits favorable performance when utilized with both hand and machine tools. It demonstrates moderately high shrinkage values, leading to moderate dimensional stability, particularly notable in flatsawn boards. Interaction with iron, especially in wet conditions, may result in staining and discoloration. White oak responds effectively to steam-bending and is well-suited for gluing, staining, and finishing processes.

Robust, aesthetically pleasing, resistant to rot, easily manageable, and cost-effective, white oak stands out as an outstanding choice for woodworkers. The wood's versatility and quality make it a popular and prevalent option in the construction of cabinets and furniture.

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