

PAPER BIRCH

Common Name(s): Paper Birch

Scientific Name: *Betula papyrifera*

Distribution: Northern and central North America

Tree Size: 65-100 ft (20-30 m) tall, 2-3 ft (.6-1.0 m) trunk diameter

Average Dried Weight: 38 lbs/ft³ (610 kg/m³)

Specific Gravity (Basic, 12% MC): .48, .61

Janka Hardness: 910 lb_f (4,050 N)

Modulus of Rupture: 12,300 lb_f/in² (84.8 MPa)

Elastic Modulus: 1,590,000 lb_f/in² (10.97 GPa)

Crushing Strength: 5,690 lb_f/in² (39.2 MPa)

Shrinkage: Radial: 6.3%, Tangential: 8.6%, Volumetric: 16.2%, T/R Ratio: 1.4

Color/Appearance: Heartwood tends to be a light reddish brown, with nearly white sapwood. Occasionally figured pieces are available with a wide, shallow curl similar to the curl found in [Cherry](#). There is virtually no color distinction between annual growth rings, giving Birch a somewhat dull, uniform appearance.

Grain/Texture: Grain is generally straight or slightly wavy, with a fine, even texture. Low natural luster.



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