TECHNICAL BULLETIN



ALDER

Scientific Name: Alnus Rubra

Red Alder, native to the Pacific Northwest, has a uniform honey color with limited differences between heartwood and sapwood. Coupled with its reliable stability, it is a popular choice for both furniture and cabinetry. With a closed grain and fine texture, the rich light brown color sets during the drying process (8.5% MC) that limits darkening and yellowing over time like other species are susceptible to.

This relatively soft hardwood is easy to work with, excelling in machining and fine finishing. It stains well and can be finished in a variety of shades and colors, offering a valuable alternative for a wide array of projects. Alder's availability in various grades allows for flexibility in design and applications- from rustic to refined contemporary pieces, aligning with the needs of both artisan craftsmen and large-scale manufacturers.

What's Alder Used For?

- Cabinetry
- Vanities
- FurnitureMillwork
- Musical Instruments
- Moulding











Why Alder?

- Close grain, fine texture
- Uniform honey color
- Excellent finishing
- Easy to machine and process
- Strategic alternative to poplar, soft maple and more

Quick Fact

Alder serves as a stable-cost alternative to Poplar and Soft Maple, favored for its price reliability amidst the market volatility of other hardwoods.







NWH Alder is available as PEFC certified, FSC Mix Credit, FSC Controlled Wood or PEFC Controlled Sources.



Alder



Weight per Bdft: 2.45 Specific Gravity (Density): 0.41 Hardness (Janka): 590 Bending Strength (MOR): 9800 Bending Stiffness (MOE): 1380 **Dimensional Movement** (Shrinkage): R 4.4%, T 7.3%



Grades We Offer



Superior



Premium



Cabinet



Standard Frame

North American Hardwood Species Comparison Chart

Lumber (12% Moisture Content)	Machining	Sanding	Finishing	Gluing	Fastening Nailing/ Screwing	Weight per bdft	Specific Gravity (Density)	Hardness (Janka)	Bending Strength (MOR)	Bending Stiffness (MOE)	Dimensional Movement (Shrinkage)	
											R (%)	T (%)
Alder	10	10	10	9	7	2.45	.41	590	9800	1380	4.4	7.3
Ash	9	10	9	8	6	3.56	.61	1320	15000	1740	4.9	7.8
Basswood	10	10	9	8	8	2.50	.37	410	8700	1460	6.6	9.3
Birch	10	8	10	8	2	3.53	.62	1260	16600	2010	7.3	9.5
Cherry	10	9	10	9	7	3.07	.52	950	12300	1490	3.7	7.1
Hickory	3	7	7	3	3	4.14	.67	1820	13700	1730	4.9	8.9
Hard Maple	9	8	10	9	4	3.73	.64	1450	15800	1830	4.8	9.9
PC Maple	9	9	10	9	5	2.74	.50	850	10700	1450	3.7	7.1
Soft Maple	8	9	10	9	5	3.19	.55	950	13400	1640	4.0	8.2
Red Oak (Northern)	10	10	9	9	7	3.64	.63	1220	14380	1761	4.0	8.6
White Oak	9	10	9	7	7	3.94	.68	1350	14380	1762	4.4	8.8
Poplar	9	8	10	9	6	2.81	.43	540	10100	1580	4.6	8.2
Walnut	9	8	9	7	7	3.36	.56	1010	14600	1680	5.5	7.8

CAB