



Queensland Maple

SCIENTIFIC: *Flindersia brayleyana*

A.K.A: Maple

The heartwood is pink to brownish pink, tan- red, brown to mid-brown, straw through to honey while the narrow sapwood band is coloured white to pale grey. The lustrous sheen of the heartwood makes for a distinctive timber. The grain is somewhat interlocked, often wavy or curly, and the texture medium and uniform. It exhibits a wide variety of figures including ribbon grain resulting from layers of interlocking grain, fiddle back and ripple caused by sudden dips in the growth rings. Some quarter sawn boards show various types of figure such as waterwave, rib and birdseye. It is regarded as one of the finest cabinet woods in the world.

“Birdseye” - Areas of dark coloured soft tissue, giving dressed surfaces a dimpled appearance, caused by attack to the living tree by an insect restricted to this species. This feature, though not particularly common in wood marketed for furniture or high-value decorative uses, is a feature for distinguishing wood of *F. brayleyana* from otherwise very similar wood of *F. pimenteliana* (maple silkwood).

HARDNESS

Firm (rated 4 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools. (4.7Janka)

MACHINING

Machines and turns well to a smooth surface.

FIXING

No difficulty has been experienced with the use of standard fittings and fastenings.

GLUING

Can be satisfactorily bonded using standard procedures.

FINISHING

Will readily accept stain, polish and paint.

DECORATIVE

High class furniture and cabinetry, plywood, shop and office fixtures, joinery, turnery, carving, inlay work, picture frames.

OTHER USES

Light boat building (planking, decking, sawn frames, stringers, chines, gunwales), marine plywood. Has been used for aeroplane propellers, coach, vehicle and carriage building, draughtsman’s implements, gunstocks, musical instruments (piano parts, guitar necks, backs, sides and headstock) and walking sticks. Was used to some extent in general building framing in the early 1900’s, and more commonly in flooring, lining mouldings and joinery, but use in such applications has been very infrequent for some decades due to the demand for furniture timber and tightly controlled logging.



DENSITY (kg/m3dry)	575
MODULUS OF RUPTURE (MPa dry)	77
MODULUS OF ELASTICITY (GPa dry)	10
RADIAL SHRINKAGE%	0.15
TANGENTIAL SHRINKAGE%	0.25
HARDNESS (Janka)(kN)	4.7, S6, SD6
STABILITY	GOOD
NATURAL DURABILITY. IN/ABOVE GROUND	4/4
SAPWOOD LYCTIDSUSCEPTIBLE	NO
MACHINING	GOOD
RESISTANCE TO SPLIT IN NAILING	GREAT
RESISTANCE TO SPLIT IN SCREWING	GREAT
GLUING	GREAT
GROWING REGION	QLD

