



European Ash

Atibt

NEN-EN 13556: European ash (GB), frêne commun (F), Esche (D), code FXEX

Other names

European ash: Belgian, native, French, Polish, Slavonian ash, olive ash (Netherlands), frêne d'Europe (France), Esche (Germany), ash (Great Britain).

Botanic name

Fraxinus excelsior L..

Family

Oleaceae.

Growth area

Europe, Asia



Tree Description

The size of the ash tree depends greatly on its growing site and soil conditions. The height of the European ash varies from 20-30m, maximum 40m. The branch-free trunk has a length of 15-20m and a diameter of 0.4-0.9m.

Supply

Roundwood, sawnwood and veneer.

Wood Description

Ash ranges from white to yellowish or light yellowish-brown in color. Freshly sawn, it can have a pinkish hue. Exposed to light, bare ash becomes more yellowish in color over time. Ash with wide annual rings is heavier, stronger and tougher than ash with narrow annual rings.

Wood Recognition

Yellow wood species, on the end face clear annual rings and ring pore, on the quarter face A typical stripe pattern.

Grain

Straight, sometimes wavy thread.

Texture

Coarse .

Voluminous mass

(510-)700(-830) kg/m³ at 12% moisture content, fresh 750-11500 kg/m³ (moisture content about 50%).

Shrinkage

Radial 3,2% and tangential 5,6%.

Drying

Moderately fast.

Hardness

Longitudinal plane 4000-6100 N.



Machinability	Good.
Nailing & Screwing	Good. Pre-drilling is recommended for ashes with a high volumic mass.
Adhesives	Good.
Bend	Very good.
Surface finish	Good.
Impregnability	Heartwood 2, sapwood 2 (according to NEN-EN 350).
Applications	Ash is known for its toughness and this is most favorable when the growth rings have an average width of 2.5 to 4mm. Clear and mild ash is used for paneling and furniture and for parquet flooring. White ash and olive ash is used as a deck veneer for plywood wallboards.
Sterkteklasse	Classified as D35 and D40.

Sustainability

Relative resistance to mold

Heartwood class 5 (4) (NEN-EN 350: practical experience and field research).

Relative resistance to animal organisms

Sapwood and heartwood: drywood borers S, termites S and marine borers S (NEN-EN 350); sapwood: common woodworm S.