

# African Teak – *Chlorophora Excelsa*

## Wood Appearance

**Colour** – The heartwood is generally golden brown but varies from grey-brown to red-brown. Longitudinal streaks are often present due to the ring-porous structure of teak. Sapwood is well demarcated, being pale yellow in colour.

**Grain** – The grain is straight or occasionally interlocked. Texture is uneven varying from smooth to coarse due to its ring-porosity.

## Wood Properties

**Density** – 670 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Durability** – Class 2 – Highly resistant to decay when fully exposed to the weather, clear of the ground and well drained with free air circulation. Moderately decay resistant in the ground.

**Hardness** – Firm (rated 4 on a 6 class scale) in relation to indentation and ease of working with hand tools

## Identification Features

**Sapwood** – Pale yellow, readily distinguished from heartwood

**Heartwood** – Brown to golden brown. Sometimes streaky

**Texture** – Non-uniform, moderately coarse, straight grain and greasy feel.

## Wood Structure

**Vessels** – Ring porous, size ranging from small to large. Tyloses. Coloured deposits frequent. Vessel lines prominent, particularly on dressed longitudinal surfaces.

**Parenchyma** – Terminal bands prominent

**Rays** – Medium to fine

## Other Features

**Burning Splinter Test** – A match size splinter burns to grey ash

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