

# Monaro Timber

# NEWS

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The monthly newsletter from  
Monaro Timber Pty Ltd

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## Which timber for what?

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We are regularly asked to suggest a timber for a particular job. Fact is you can use most timbers for most applications but some will do the job much better than others. Some will perform poorly at a certain function but may do it just the same. This month I would like to talk about some of the timbers we stock, what their properties are and what they are good for.

### Tasmanian Blackwood.

One of our best sellers, Blackwood is a relatively soft hardwood that grows in Tasmania, Victoria and southern New South Wales. This timber is prized for fine furniture and household wooden items such as boxes, chopping boards, bowls, vases and the like. It works fairly well though care must be taken when routing as it can tear out the grain and is also prone to burning on the end grain. Feed and cutter speed are important here. Blackwood exhibits quite a bit of wavy and interlocked grain which adds to its character but makes it more difficult to work. It sands well and can be polished with almost anything. This timber bends very well and can have fantastic fiddleback figure. It comes highly recommended.

### Sydney Blue Gum.

Not to be confused with Southern Blue Gum, this species is a tough pink red hardwood which grows

right up the coast into southern Queensland. It is quite heavy, machines and sands well but like many of our tough Eucalypts it is prone to some cracking in drying. These can be sorted with epoxy or super glue. It also shows some gum veins and borer holes which add to the character. Organoil brings up the colour a treat and as it is a heavy hardwood use the polyurethane glue for best results. We have 100 and 150 x 25, 200 and 250 x 38 and 100 x 50 in stock at present. Use this timber for all sorts of furniture, flooring and wall panelling.

### Jellutong.

This is a very soft and stable timber from Malaysia. It makes a fantastic pattern making timber as it can be worked easily in all directions. Brilliant for carving, it can be easily glued up to make large blocks. We currently have 300 x 50 boards in stock.

### King William Pine.

Everyone's heard of it but hardly anyone uses it. Great stuff for sound boards on instruments but equally brilliant for bottoms of boxes, drawers, boat building or any application requiring a good stable timber. Give it a go.

### Baltic Pine.

Much of the furniture around the shops states "Baltic Finish" but is in fact Radiata Pine with some horrid brown goop splashed all over it. Possibly an

attempt to disguise the rough and ready workmanship. Try the real thing. Baltic works very well, is naturally light in colour with a warm pink heartwood and a creamy sapwood. The frequency of knots will vary depending on the board chosen. It glues, sands, machines and if you must, stains well.

### Hoop Pine.

Looking for an Aussie native, plantation grown easy working timber? This is it. From Queensland, Hoop is a hard softwood which works extremely well for most applications and is available up to 6.0m long with no knots! We have 25, 38 and 50mm boards available. If you want quality pine, try it.

### F27

This is a structural grading and like my new truck (sorry, had to slip it in) it can carry heavy loads. We keep F27 in Silvertop Ash, Blue Leaf String bark and Yellow Stringy bark. These timbers will do all sorts from pergolas and decks through to outdoor furniture. Don't risk treated pine for outside when you can have a durable timber naturally. Some of this can be selected for fine furniture too.

We keep around seventy species in a range of sizes. If you have a particular job to do talk it over with us and we will find you a solution. Cheers for now. *Shaun.*

*Monaro Timber. We do almost anything in timber!*