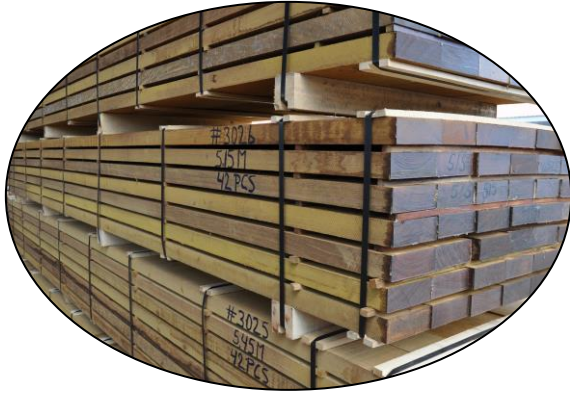


Ipe / Brazilian Walnut



Trade Name: **Ipe**

Other Names: Ébène Verte,

Scientific Name: *Handroanthus serratifolia*

Family / Famille: *Bignoniaceae*

Specie Brief: A dark beautiful and highly durable tropical hardwood that weathers very well and is the benchmark species for outdoor decking in Europe and the USA.

Wood Description		Physical & Mechanical Properties	
Heartwood Color:	Green/Brown	Specific Gravity (kg/m3)*	1.04
Sapwood Color:	Clearly demarcated	Monnin Hardness*	14.6
Texture:	Fine	Crushing Strength*	95 MPa
Grain:	Interlocked	Radial Shrinkage	5.1%
Cross Grain:	Marked	Tangential Shrinkage	5.1%
Durability:	Class 1 - very durable	Tangential / Radial Ratio	1.3
Marine Durable:	Class 5- yes	* at 12% moisture content	

Key Products:

- Outdoor Decking
- Decking Tiles
- Bridges
- Marine Timbers
- Heavy Construction
- Hardwood Flooring

Properties & Characteristics

Ipe is one of the most widely known tropical hardwoods from South America and is the premium outdoor decking species in the key markets of Western Europe and USA. It is commonly referred to as 'Brazilian Walnut' in some markets. As of 2007 the scientific name for Ipe is recognized as *Handroanthus serratifolia* (formerly *Tabebuia serratifolia*). Ipe is a top tier canopy tree and often produce logs of 1.0m+ in diameter. The heartwood has a greenish brown colour and the grain is straight, sometimes irregular or interlocked. The texture is very fine. Ipe has a wide range of uses but due to its excellent outdoor durability and stability, Ipe is mostly used for

high-end outdoor uses such as decking, boardwalks, and bridge construction and marine timbers.

Outdoor Decking & Boardwalks

Measured on strong demand, price & quality, Ipe is now the number one decking species in much of Europe and the coastal regions of the USA. Ipe decking also dominates in certain markets such as the French Territories, and parts of the Caribbean and South Korea. Ipe decking is highly prized due to its durability, very good stability, and its colour when in natural green/brown or when it ages to a clean driftwood silver colour. Because it is sourced from large logs and because it is very stable, large decking sizes can also be source in 50 & 75m thicknesses and 200mm+ widths.

Bridges & Marine Timbers

Ipe is a very strong and durable timber and can be sourced in very large sizes making it suitable as bridge and marine timbers. Though Ipe is expensive, it can be often used for public and government projects that require a durable hardwood in big sizes. This is particularly common in the Eastern coastal USA and parts of Europe.

Hardwood Flooring

In the past Ipe was widely used for hardwood flooring internationally and across South America. The flooring market is where Ipe is given the "Black Walnut" name. As light coloured flooring now dominates Western markets, the main hardwood flooring market for Ipe today is the Far East and mainly China.