Safety Information on Woods

Class

Irritant: Fairly rapid reaction after exposure; will cause similar reaction repeatedly. **Sensitizer**: More severe; may have latency period of hours or months and may require repeated handling before reaction occurs; reactions tend to become more severe over time.

Reaction Category

Eyes and Skin Irritations: Hives Itching, Redness. Respiratory Problems.

Nausea, Headache or general malaise; possibly even liver or kidney malfunction.

Cancer of nose & sinus. Statistics show that woodworkers have a 40% Greater chance of nasal cancer than the general population, but the majority of statistics on nasal cancer are based on data from 1920-1960 when the furniture industry became highly mechanized with little or no dust control methods.

Toxicity Strength (where known)

Small **Great EXTREME**

Source: of toxicity (dust)
Dust, Wood, Leaves or Bark

Spalting is any form of wood coloration caused by fungi.

Spalted wood should always considered **TOXIC**

Туре	Class/Reaction	Site	Toxicity Strength	Source
Abura/bahia	Vomiting, nausea, giddiness, [difficult to remove splinters]	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Afara	Splinters become septic, nettle rash, nose and gum bleeding, decrease in lung	Skin, Respiratory		
Afromosia	Irritant. Nervous system effects, splinters go septic, rhinitis, asthma	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust
Afzelia/doussie	Dermatitis, respiratory problems, sneezing, nose and throat irritation	Skin, Respiratory		
Agba/tola	<i>Irritant</i> , dermatitis	Skin		
Alder, Common	<i>Irritant</i> , dermatitis, bronchial problems	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Alder, Red	Dermatitis, rhinitis, bronchial problems			
Amboyna	Dermatitis, asthma, nausea	Skin, Respiratory		
Andiroba/crabwood	Irritant	Eyes, Respiratory		
Angelicao	Irritant	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust
Angelin	Dermatitis	Skin		
Apple	Unknown			
Arborvitae	Irritant	Respiratory		
Ash, American	Irritant; Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma	Respiratory		
Ash, European	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma	Respiratory		
Ash, Japanese	Can affect lung function	Respiratory		
Ash, Silver	Unknown			

Aspen, Canadian	Asthma, dermatitis, bronchitis	Skin, Respiratory		
Avodire	Irritant . Dermatitis, Nosebleeds			
Avodire	Dermatitis, nosebleeds, possible internal bleeding, respiratory irritation			
Ayan/movingui	<i>Irritant</i> ; Dermatitis			
Bald Cypress	Sensitizer	Respiratory	Small	Dust
Balsa	Unknown			
Balsam Fir	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	Small	Leaves, bark
Basralocus/angelique	Unknown			
Basswood	Unknown			
Beech, American	Sensitizer. Nasal Cancer, decrease in lung function, dermatitis, eye irritation	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Beech, European	Nasal Cancer. Dermatitis. Eye irritation, decrease in lung function.	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Beech, Red	Unknown			
Beech, Silver	Unknown			
Birch	Sensitizer; Nausea, Dermatitis	Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Birch, European	Sensitizer; dermatitis, respiratory problems	Skin, Respiratory		
Birch, Paper	Dermatitis, respiratory problems	Skin, Respiratory		
Birch, Yellow	Dermatitis, respiratory problems	Skin, Respiratory		

Black Locust	<i>Irritant</i> ; Nausea	Eyes, Skin	Great	Leaves, bark
Blackbean	Dermatitis, irritation to the nose, eyes, throat, armpits, and genitals	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Blackbutt	Unknown			
Blackgum	Unknown			
Blackwood	Sensitizer; Dermatitis, asthma, nose and throat irritation	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Blackwood, African	Sneezing, asthma, conjunctivitis, acute dermatitis	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Bollywood	Irritant	Skin		
Boxelder	Allergic bronchial asthma, dermatitis, rhinitis	Skin, Respiratory		
Boxwood	Sensitizer; dermatitis, irritation of eyes, nose and throat	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust, wood
Boxwood, Maracaibo	Unknown			
Brazilwood	Irritation to eyes, skin, headaches, nausea, visual disturbances	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Bubinga	<i>Irritant</i> ; Dermatitis, skin lesions possible			
Butternut	Irritant	Eyes, Skin	Great	
Cashew	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	Great	Dust, wood

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Cedar (American)	Irritant; Contact dermatitis	Skin		
Cedar (Western red)	Irritant; Asthma, rhinitis, dermatitis, mucous membrane irritation, central	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Cedar of Lebanon	Irritant; Rhinitis, chest tightness	Respiratory		
Cedar, Australian Red	Dermatitis, violent headache, giddiness, stomach cramps, asthma,	Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Cedar, Port Orford	Dermatitis, irritation to eyes and respiratory system, violent earache, giddiness, stomach cramps. [Prolonged inhalation of odor can lead to kidney problems.]	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Cedar, South American	Nose and throat irritation, dermatitis, asthma, skin blistering, inflamed eyelids, possible nasal cancer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Cedar, Southern White	Unknown			
Cedar, Virginian Pencil	Dermatitis, respiratory problems	Skin, Respiratory		
Cedar, Western Red	Asthma, rhinitis, dermatitis, mucous membrane irritation, nosebleeds, stomach pains, nausea, giddiness, disturbance of the central nervous system	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Cedar, Western Red	Sensitizer	Respiratory	Great	Dust, Leaves, Bark
Ceiba	Unknown			
Cerejeira	Unknown			
Chechem	Irritant	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust, wood

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Cherry, American	Wheezing, giddiness	Respiratory		
Cherry, European	Unknown			
Chestnut, American	Unknown			
Chestnut, Horse	Unknown			
Chestnut, Sweet	Irritant; Dermatitis	Skin		Bark lichens
Coachwood	Dermatitis	Skin		
Cocobolo	Irritant. Sensitizer. Dermatitis, conjunctivitis, nausea, bronchial asthma, nose and throat irritation, wheezing, chest tightness, headache	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Cottonwood	Dermatitis			Dust
Courbaril	Irritant	Skin		
Dahoma	Irritant; sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Degame	Unknown			
Dogwood	Unknown			
Douglas Fir	Irritant; Dermatitis, splinters go septic, rhinitis, bronchial effects, nasal cancer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		

WOOD TOXICITY

	Irritant . Sensitizer.	<u> </u>		
Ebony	Mucous membrane irritation, dermatitis	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Ebony, African	Sensitizer. Acute dermatitis, conjunctivitis, sneezing	Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Ebony, Macassar	Sensitizer. Acute dermatitis, conjunctivitis, sneezing	Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Ekki	Dermatitis, itching	Skin		
Elm, American	Irritant; Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	Small	Dust
Elm, Dutch	NASAL CANCER. Dermatitis, irritation to nose and throat.			
Elm, English	NASAL CANCER. Dermatitis, irritation to eyes, nose and throat.	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Elm, Rock	<i>Irritant</i> . Dermatitis	Skin		
Elm, Wych	NASAL CANCER. Irritant; Dermatitis.	Skin, Respiratory		
Fir	Irritant	Eyes, Skin	Small	
Freijo/cordia	Sensitizer	Skin		
Gaboon/okoume	<i>Irritant ;</i> Asthma, cough, dermatitis	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Gedu nohor/edinam	<i>Irritant</i> ; Dermatitis	Skin		
Goncalo Alves	Sensitizer; Dermatitis, irritation to skin and eyes	Eyes, Skin		
Goncalo aves	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	Great	Dust, wood
Greenheart (Surinam)	Irritant; Sensitizer. Splinters go septic, cardiac and intestinal disorders,	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Guanacaste	Mucous membrane irritation, allergies	Respiratory		
Guarea	Sensitizer. Skin and mucous membrane irritation, dermatitis, asthma, nausea,	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust

Gum, American Sweet	<i>Irritant.</i> Dermatitis	Skin		
Gum, Red River	Unknown			
Gum, Rose	Unknown			
Gum, Spotted	Dermatitis	Skin		
Gum, Sydney Blue	Contact dermatitis. nose and throat irritation	Skin, Respiratory		
Hackberry	Unknown			
Hemlock, Western	NASAL CANCER. Bronchial effects, rhinitis, dermatitis, eczema	Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust
Hickory	Unknown			
Holly	Unknown			
Hornbeam, European	Unknown			

ldigbo	<i>Irritant</i> ; Respiratory problems	Skin, Respiratory		
Imbuia	Irritant	Eyes, Nose, Skin		Dust
lpe	Irritant. Shortness of breath, headache, visual disturbance	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Iroko	Irritant; Sensitizer. Pneumonia, asthma, dermatitis, nettle rash,	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Ironwood, Desert	Irritant. Sneezing, rhinitis	Respiratory		Dust
Ivory Wood, Pink	Unknown			
Jacaranda Pardo	Dermatitis, allergic symptoms			
Jacareuba	Dermatitis, loss of appetite, insomnia, fainting, possible kidney damage	Skin, Respiratory		
Jarrah	Irritation to nose, throat, and eyes	Eyes, Respiratory		
Jelutong	Contact allergy	Skin		
Karri	Unknown			
Katon	Irritant	Respiratory		
Kauri Pine	Unknown			
Kingwood	Irritant	Eyes, Skin		
Koa	Unknown			
Kokko	Irritant	Eyes, nose, throat		Dust

Laburnum	Highly toxic to animals and humans		Seeds
Larch, European	Irritant. Nettle rash, dermatitis, respiratory irritation	Skin	Dust, Bark Lichens
Larch, Japanese	Unknown		
Larch, Western	Allergic bronchial asthma, dermatitis, rhinitis		
Lati	Unknown		
Lauan, White	Dermatitis, irritation to the nose, throat and eyes	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	
Laurel, Indian	Irritant		Dust
Light Virola	Unknown		
Lignum Vitae	Dermatitis	Skin	
Limba	Irritant. Splinters go septic, nettle rash, nose and gum bleeding, decrease in lung function	Skin, Respiratory	
Lime, European	Unknown		

Macacauba	Unknown			
Madrona	Unknown			
Magnolia	Unknown			
Mahogany (American)	Irritant. Sensitizer. Dermatitis, respiratory disorders, mucous membrane irritation, giddiness, vomiting, furunculosis	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust
Mahogany (Swientenia)	Sensitizer. Pneumonia	Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust
Mahogany, African	NASAL CANCER. Irritant.; Sensitizer. Dermatitis (esp. of face, forearms, and backs of hands), respiratory disorders, mucous membrane irritation.	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust
Mahogany, Australian Red	Unknown			
Makore	Irritant; Sensitizer. Dermatitis, mucous membrane and respiratory tract irritation, nosebleeds, nausea, headaches, giddiness, central nervous system and blood effects	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Mangeao	Unknown			
Mansonia	Irritant; Sensitizer, Nausea, Splinters go septic, skin sensitization, respiratory disorders, nosebleeds, headache, cardiac disorders, sneezing, asthma, vomiting [Bark contains mansonin, a digitalis cardiac poison.]	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood, bark
Manzinilla	Irritant	Respiratory		Dust
Maple (C. Corticale mild)	Sensitizer; Pneumonia, decrease in lung function	Respiratory	Great	Dust
Maple, Big Leaf	Allergic bronchial asthma, dermatitis, rhinitis	Skin, Respiratory		
Maple, European	Sensitizer; Decrease in lung function	Respiratory		
Maple, Hard	May affect lung function.	Respiratory		Dust
Maple, Japanese	Not known			

Maple, Queensland	Dermatitis	Skin		
Maple, Soft	May affect lung function.	Respiratory		Dust
Mengkulang	Unknown			
Meranti/lauan	Irritant	Skin		
Merbau	Dermatitis, rhinitis			Dust, Wood
Mersawa	Unknown			
Mesquite	<i>Irritant</i> ; Dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory		
Mimosa	Irritant; Nausea	Nasal	EXTREME	Leaves, bark, dust, wood
Muhuhu	Dermatitis	Skin		
Muninga	Dermatitis, nasal irritation, bronchial asthma	Skin, Respiratory		
Myrtle	Sensitizer; Nausea, respiratory problems	Respiratory	Great	Leaves, bark, dust, wood
Myrtle, Tasmanian	Irritation to mucous membrane	Respiratory		
Niove	Unknown			
Oak, American Red	NASAL CANCER. Sensitizer. Asthma, sneezing, eye irritation	Eyes, Respiratory	Great	Dust
Oak, American White	Sensitizer; NASAL CANCEER. Asthma, sneezing, eye irritation	Eyes, Skin	Great	Leaves, bark, dust
Oak, Australian Silky	Dermatitis	Skin		Green wood
Oak, European	NASAL CANCER. Sneezing, dermatitis.	Skin, Respiratory	Great	
Oak, Japanese	NASAL CANCER. Dermatitis, sneezing.	Skin, Respiratory	Great	
Oak, Tasmanian	Dermatitis, asthma, sneezing, irritant to eyes, nose and throat	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	

Obeche	Sensitizer; Direct toxin, nausea, skin and respiratory tract irritation, asthma, lung congestion, nettle rash, dermatitis, feverish, sneezing, wheezing	Cardiac, Respiratory, Skin	EXTREME	Dust, wood, leaves, bark
Olive, East African	Irritant	Eyes, Nose, Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Olive, European	Irritant	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Olivewood	Irritant, Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Opepe	Sensitizer; Dermatitis, mucous membrane irritation, central nervous system effects, (giddiness), visual effects, nosebleeds, vomiting, blood spitting	Respiratory	Small	Dust
Osage-Orange	Dermatitis	Skin		Sap
Ovangkol	Unknown			'
Padauk, African	Swelling of eyelids, itching, vomiting	Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Padauk, Andaman	Irritant; Sensitizer; Nausea, itching, eye irritation, vomiting, swelling (eyelids), nasal irritation	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Padauk, Burma	Dermatitis, asthma, nasal irritation	Skin, Respiratory		
Panga Panga	Unknown			
Pau ferro	Sensitizer	Eyes, Skin	Small	Dust, wood
Pau Marfim	Dermatitis, rhinitis, asthma	Skin, Respiratory		
Paulownia	Unknown			
Pear	Unknown			
Pecan	Unknown			
Peroba rosa	Irritant; Sensitizer. Nausea, skin and mucous membrane irritation, systemic effects - headache, nausea, stomach cramp, weakness, blisters, sweating, faintness, drowsiness	Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood

Peroba, White	Sensitizer; Dermatitis, nasal irritation, splinters may become septic	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	
Persimmon	Dermatitis	Skin	Dust, Heartwood
Pine	Irritant; Skin irritation (possibly photosensitization), decrease in lung function	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Celery-Top	Unknown		
Pine, Eastern White	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Hoop	Unknown		
Pine, Huon	Unknown		
Pine, Loblolly	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Lodgepole	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Longleaf and Slash	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Parana	Unknown		
Pine, Ponderosa	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Radiata	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Scots	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Sugar	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Pine, Western White	Decrease in lung function, rhinitis, asthma, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory	
Plane, European	Unknown		
Poplar	Irritant; Sneezing, eye irritation, blisters (possible), asthma, bronchitis	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	

Primavera	Unknown			
Pterygota, African	Unknown			
Pukatea	Unknown			
Purpleheart	Sensitizer; Nausea, nasal irritation	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust, wood
Quebracho	NASAL CANCER. Irritant; Dermatitis, nasal and respiratory irritation, nausea, malaise.	Respiratory	Great	Dust, Leaves, Bark
Ramin	Irritant; Dermatitis, breathing difficulties, coughing, shivering, sweating, tiredness	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust, Bark
Rata	Irritant	Eyes, nose		Dust
Rewarewa	Unknown			
Rimu	Irritant to eyes and nose	Skin, Respiratory		
Robinia	Irritant; Nausea, malaise	Respiratory		
Rosewood, Brazilian	Dermatitis, irritation to eyes, respiratory problems	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		Dust
Rosewood, Honduras	Dermatitis, asthma	Skin, Respiratory		
Rosewood, Indian	Sensitizer; Dermatitis, asthma, respiratory problems	Skin, Respiratory		
Rosewoods	Irritant; Sensitizer; Dermatitis, respiratory disorders	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Sapele	Irritant; Skin irritation, sneezing	Skin		
Sassafras	NASAL CANCER. Sensitizer. Nausea, direct toxin, skin irritation	Skin, Respiratory	Small	Dust, wood, leaves, bark
Satinwood	Irritant	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Satinwood, Ceylon	Dermatitis, Nasal irritation, headaches, swelling of the scrotum	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory		
Satinwood, West Indian	Dermatitis, giddiness, nausea, lethargy, visual disturbances	Skin, Respiratory		

Sequoia (Redwood)	Irritant; Sensitizer; Nasal cancer, hypersensitivity pneumonia, asthma, wheezing, dermatitis,	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust
Sheoak	Unknown			
Snakewood	Irritant; Thirst, salivation, respiratory tract irritation, nausea	Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Spruce	Sensitizer; Respiratory disorders, possible photosensitization, irritation to nose and throat, bronchial asthma	Respiratory	Small	Dust, wood
Spruce, Sitka	Irritant; Allergic bronchial asthma, rhinitis, dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory		
Stavewood	Irritant	Respiratory		
Stinkwood	Nasal irritation	Nose		Dust
Sucupira	Irritant; Contact Dermatitis	Skin, Respiratory		
Sycamore, European	Not known			
Tallowwood	Unknown			
Tamboti	Blisters, blindness, [Meat cooked over tamboti wood causes life-threatening diarrhea.]	Eyes, Skin		Sap, Dust
Tatajuba	Contact dermatitis, allergic reactions	Skin		
Teak	Sensitizer; Pneumonia, dermatitis (potent even after seasoning), nettle rash, respiratory disorders, dermatitis, conjunctivitis, irritation to nose and throat, swelling of the scrotum, nausea, oversensitivity to light	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	EXTREME	Dust

WOOD TOXICITY

Thuya Burr	Unknown			
Tulipwood, Brazilian	Sensitizer; Dermatitis, asthma	Skin, Respiratory		
Turpentine	Irritation to mucous membrane	Respiratory		
Utile	Irritant	Skin		
Walnut, African	Irritation to the mucous membranes and alimentary tract, nasal cancer			
Walnut, American (Black)	Sensitizer; Irritant; Sneezing, rhinitis, dermatitis	Eyes, Skin	Great	Dust, wood, leaves, bark
Walnut, European	Dermatitis, irritation to nose, eyes, and throat, nasal cancer			
Walnut, Queensland	Unknown			
Wenge	Sensitizer; Irritant; Splinters go septic, dermatitis, central nervous system effects (giddiness, drowsiness, visual disturbance, abdominal cramps)	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood
Whitewood, American	Irritant; Dermatitis, allergic reactions	Skin		
Willow	Sensitizer; Nasal cancer, nausea [Those allergic to aspirin could also be allergic to willow.]	Respiratory	Great	Dust, wood, leaves, bark
Yellow Buckeye	Poisonous (contains aescin, a cytoxin)			Nuts, Twigs
Yew, European	Irritant; Direct toxin, nausea, dermatitis, systemic effects (headache, blood pressure drop, cardiac effects, fainting, visual disturbances), lung congestion [Highly toxic to humans and cattle.]	Eyes, Skin, Cardiac	EXTREME	Dust, wood
Yew, Pacific	Irritant; Highly toxic, dermatitis	Eyes, Skin, Respiratory, Gastro		All parts of tree
Zebrawood/Zebrano	Sensitizer; Irritant Asthma, breathing difficulties	Eyes, Skin	Great	Dust, wood
Ziricote	Unknown			