



# AMERICAN RED OAK

Q.falcata, Q.rubra



**Description:** American red oak is the trade name for eight commercially available species of oak that are sold as both timber and veneer and used in a range of interior applications.

The name 'red oak' comes from colour of the leaves in autumn.

**Features:** A highly attractive timber, the sapwood of the red oak ranges from white to light brown, with a pink to red-brown heartwood.

While similar in appearance to white oak, red oak has slightly smaller rays and so has a less pronounced figure. The end grain structure of the red oak is also more porous. It is a typically straight-grained wood with a coarse texture, although both colour and texture can vary dependent on the growing region.

**Applications:** American Red Oak *is ideal for:*

- Furniture
- Internal lining & paneling
- Flooring
- Veneers

**Characteristics:** American red oak stains and polishes to a highly attractive finish, making it a popular choice for architects and furniture makers around the world ( see images below). In Australia, American red oak is most often used in interior applications, such as flooring, furniture, joinery, cabinetry and paneling. It is also used in the interior of boats.

**Pricing/Availability:** American Red Oak pricing varies according to the profile size but is generally significantly less expensive than White Oak. It is readily available from specialist dealers throughout Australia



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Density kg/m3 (12% MC)	<b>730</b>	Durability Class In Ground	<b>4</b>	Bending	<b>n/a</b>
Hardness (Janka kN)	<b>5.2</b>	Durability class above Ground	<b>4</b>	Machining	<b>Good</b>
Modulus of Rupture Mpa dry	<b>53</b>	Susceptible to Lyctid Borer	<b>YES</b>	Finish	<b>Excellent</b>
Modulus of Elasticity	<b>12.0</b>	Termite Resistance	<b>Not Resistant</b>	Resistance to splitting	<b>Good</b>
BAL Rating	<b>Not Tested</b>	Tannin Leaching	<b>N/A</b>	Gluing	<b>Good</b>
		Stability	<b>Good</b>	Growing Region	<b>North America</b>

American Red Oak's attractive grain and acceptance of stains make it an excellent interior timber and a cost effective alternative to White Oak for interior finishes due to the similarity in appearance. It is a popular choice for veneers, flooring and furniture.

It is a relatively soft timber so if selected for flooring, care should be taken to minimise marking and denting in this application and some consideration should be given to the amount of traffic and footwear the flooring will be subjected to. It is not an ideal choice where heavy traffic is expected and ladies high heels will damage it.

The timber stains and finishes well and it makes an attractive feature as wall linings, doors and battens without being overpowering adding warmth and interest to a room.

The name Red Oak is in reference to the leaves of the tree which turn red in autumn rather than the timber colour.

