

The Colonial Woodsmyth

Common Name: Cherry

Botanical Name: Prunus serotina



Other Common Names: Black cherry, Capulin, Cherry, Chisos wild cherry, Choke cherry, Edwards Plateau cherry, Escarpment cherry, Gila chokecherry, Mountain black cherry, New England mahogany, Plum, Rum cherry, Southwestern chokecherry, Whiskey cherry, Wild black cherry



Common Uses: Boat building, Cabinetmaking, Carvings, Caskets, Decorative veneer, Furniture, Interior trim, Musical instruments, Novelties, Scientific instruments, Sculpture, Specialty items, Turnery, Veneer, Woodenware, Bedroom suites, Bobbins, Building materials, Canoes, Chairs, Chests, Concealed parts (Furniture), Core Stock, Desks, Dining-room furniture, Dowell pins, Dowells, Drawer sides, Drum sticks, Figured veneer, Fine furniture, Floor lamps, Furniture components, Furniture squares or stock, Hatracks, Interior construction, Kitchen cabinets, Lifeboats, Living-room suites, Millwork, Moldings, Office furniture, Organ pipes, Piano keys, Pianos, Picker sticks, Plain veneer, Radio, stereo, TV cabinets, Rustic furniture, Shade rollers, Shipbuilding, Shuttles, Sounding boards,

Spindles, Spools, Stencil & chisel blocks, Stools, Sucker rods, T-Squares, Tables, Trimming, Umbrella handles, Utility furniture, Violin, Violin bows, Wainscotting, Wardrobes, Woodwork, Xylophones

Region: North America, Western Europe

Country: Canada, Switzerland, United States

Tree Data: Black cherry is reported to be the largest of all North American cherries, attaining heights of about 100 feet (30 m) in the favorable climate of the Appalachian. The average tree is reported to be about 80 feet (24 m) in height, and produces a tall trunk which is about 24 inches (60 cm) in diameter. Cherry trees are reported to be large enough to harvest after 35 to 40 years, with larger trees growing to full heights in about 100 years. The trees are famous for their wood, but they are also reported to be attractive, flowering species. Cherry trees are reported to be easily attacked by various organisms, including birds that eat the food and harm the bark to mites, slogs and insects such as, fruit flies. They are also susceptible to brown rot, root rot, leaf spot, and blossom blight.

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Sapwood Color: The narrow sapwood is whitish to reddish brown in color. The wood has also been described as creamy pink.

Heartwood Color: The heartwood varies in color from reddish brown to deep red, or light reddish brown, usually with brown flecks and some gum pockets. Some flooring manufacturers are reported to steam Black cherry lumber to bleed the darker heartwood into the sapwood for a more uniform color. Color variations between boards are reported to be rather significant.

Grain: The grain is reported to be fine, but material with dark wavy streaks which are described as striking in appearance are frequently found. Quartersawn pieces are reported to be very beautiful. Cherry is reported to have a strong resemblance to true Mahogany, and is often called New England mahogany.

Texture: Texture is fine and uniform, and the wood often has narrow brown pith flecks and small gum pockets.

Luster: Luster has been described as rich and satiny.

