



Pinus glabra Walt.

Family: Pinaceae

Spruce Pine

The genus *Pinus* is composed of about 100 species native to temperate and tropical regions of the world. Wood of pine can be separated microscopically into the white, red and yellow pine groups. The word *pinus* is the classical Latin name. The word *glabra* means glabrous or smooth, referring to the bark.

Other Common Names: Amerikaanse witte pijn, black pine, bottom white pine, cedar pine, kings-tree, lowland spruce pine, pin blanc americain, pino blanco americano, poor pine, southern white pine, spruce lowland pine, spruce pine, Walter pine, white pine.

Distribution: Spruce pine is native to the coastal plain from eastern South Carolina to northern Florida and west to southeastern Louisiana.

The Tree: Spruce pine trees reach heights of 100 feet, with diameters of 3 feet. A record tree has been recorded at 123 feet tall, with a diameter of over 4 feet. In stands, spruce pine self prunes to a height of 60 feet.

General Wood Characteristics: The sapwood of spruce pine is a yellowish white, while the heartwood is a reddish brown. The sapwood is usually wide in second growth stands. Heartwood begins to form when the tree is about 20 years old. In old, slow-growth trees, sapwood may be only 1 to 2 inches in width. The wood of spruce pine is very heavy and strong, very stiff, hard and moderately high in shock resistance. It also has a straight grain, medium texture and is difficult to work with hand tools. It ranks high in nail holding capacity, but there may be difficulty in gluing. All the southern pines have moderately large shrinkage but are stable when properly seasoned. The heartwood is rated as moderate to low in resistance to decay. The sapwood is more easily impregnated with preservatives.

Mechanical Properties (2-inch standard)

	Specific gravity	MOE x10 ⁶ lbf/in ²	MOR lbf/in ²	Compression		WML ^a in-lbf/in ³	Hardness lbf	Shear lbf/in ²
				Parallel lbf/in ²	Perpendicular lbf/in ²			
Green	0.41	1.00	6000	2840	280	NA	450	900
Dry	NA	1.23	10400	5650	730	NA	660	1490

^aWML = Work to maximum load.
Reference (59).

Drying and shrinkage: No shrinkage information available at this time.

Kiln Drying Schedules^a

Conventional temperature/moisture content-controlled schedules^a

Condition	4/4, 5/4 stock	6/4 stock	8/4 stock	10/4 stock	12/4 stock	British schedule 4/4 stock
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Standard	T13-C6	T12-C5	T12-C5	T10-C4	T10-C4	L
Highest Quality	279	279	279	T10-C4	T10-C4	NA

^aReference (28, 91, 185).

Conventional temperature/time-controlled schedules^a

Condition	Lower grades			Upper grades			
	4/4, 5/4 stock	6/4 stock	8/4 stock	4/4, 5/4 stock	6/4 stock	8/4 stock	12/4, 16/4 stock
Standard	281	NA	282	281	NA	282	284

^aReferences (28, 91, 185).

High temperature^a

Condition	4/4, 5/4 stock	6/4 stock	8/4 stock	Other products
Standard	401/402	NA	NA	2 by 4 403 2 by 10 403 4 by 4 404

^aReferences (28, 91 185). All the southern pines have moderately high shrinkage but are stable when properly seasoned.

Working Properties: Spruce pine is difficult to work with hand tools. It ranks high in nail holding capacity, but there may be difficulty in gluing.

Durability: The heartwood is rated as moderate to low in resistance to decay.

Preservation: The sapwood is more easily impregnated with preservatives.

Uses: The denser and higher strength southern pine is used extensively in construction of factories, warehouses, bridges, trestles, and docks in the form of stringers, and for roof trusses, beams, posts, joists, and piles. Lumber of lower density and strength finds many uses for building material, such as interior finish, sheathing, subflooring, and joists and for boxes, pallets, and crates. Southern pine is also used also for tight and slack cooperage. When used for railroad crossties, piles, poles and mine timbers, it is usually treated with preservatives. The manufacture of structural grade plywood from southern pine has become a major wood-using industry.

Toxicity: In general, working with pine wood may cause dermatitis, allergic bronchial asthma or rhinitis in some individuals (5, 9 & 14).

Additional Reading and References Cited (in parentheses)

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