



**CORE
MATERIALS**

BALSA LUMBER

Selected kiln dried balsa

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3A Composites **balsa lumber** is a light and strong natural wood product. It is easy to process and adds a great natural touch to any application. **3A Composites** balsa wood is a renewable resource grown in well-maintained FSC®-certified plantations within a natural and socially sustainable environment.

Our **balsa lumber** is ideal for sport, handicrafts, leisure, and modeling applications. Its smooth texture, low density, and homogenous structure facilitate work with hand tools or standard woodworking equipment. Furthermore, it is easy to bond with common glues and the surfaces could be finished with all types of glues, paints, stains, and coatings.

We maintain the natural resource

3A Composites owns and manages thousands of FSC®-certified balsa plantations in Ecuador and Papua New Guinea. Seedling cultivation in our own mills ensures sustainable forest management and continuous supply. Please ask for balsa lumber with FSC®-certification.



Selected wood quality

Balsa lumber is certified kiln-dried to a low moisture content. This characteristic ensures dimensional stability and consistent, lasting quality.

The model grade premium quality is the highest quality grade available, tightly controlled for density with a super white wood surface meeting the highest end-customer expectations.

The select lumber grade of superior wood quality has a low amount of cosmetic defects, such as mineral stain beside small tight knots, splits, and checks.

The industrial grade lumber contains typical wood irregularities like discolorations.

Applications

Modeling	Airplanes, boats, architectural modeling
Sports	Fishing and float lures, dart and arrow targets, surf and wakeboards, bird decoys
Theatrical sets	Movable scenery, breakaway doors, and furniture
Handcrafts	Plaques, trivets, art projects
Educational	School projects, training aids, manual dexterity training
Signage	Carvings, grit blasting, painting
Packing	Precious natural boxes and packaging
Industrial	Impact limiters and shock absorption

Application focus



Easy to process and craft

Balsa outstanding lightness and homogenous structure offer great crafting properties with common tools:

- / **Standard woodworking equipment like saws, sanders, planers, sharpeners, routers, drills, etc.**
- / **Hand tools: knives, chisels, jigsaws, rasps, sanding paper, etc.**
- / **Die cutting, laser cutting, CNC routers, etc.**
- / **Easy bonding and painting**

More outstanding properties

Besides sustainability, lightness and easy processing, balsa is often used in industrial applications due to the following characteristics:

- / **Outstanding weight specific mechanical properties in lightweight structures**
- / **Excellent fatigue and impact resistance**
- / **High vibration damping and sound absorption**
- / **Use in extremely wide temperature range**
-212 °C to +163 °C (-414 °F to +325 °F)
- / **Very good fire behavior, fulfilling the highest requirements (fire, smoke, toxicity)**

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issue 03.2022



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