
**Timber — Round and sawn timber —
Vocabulary**

Bois — Bois ronds et bois sciés — Vocabulaire

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Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
Introduction.....	v
1 Scope.....	1
2 Normative references.....	1
3 Terms and definitions.....	1
4 Terms related to round timber.....	3
5 Terms related to sawn timber.....	6
6 Terms related to moisture content.....	13
7 Terms related to dimensions of round timber.....	16
8 Terms related to dimensions of sawn timber.....	18
9 Terms related to the anatomical structure of timber.....	20
10 Terms related to common features of round and sawn timber.....	22
11 Terms related to features of round timber.....	24
12 Terms related to features of sawn timber.....	27
13 Terms related to stain and fungal attack.....	31
14 Terms related to degradation by insects or other wood borers.....	35
Bibliography.....	38
Index.....	39

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 218, *Timber*.

This second edition of ISO 24294 cancels and replaces ISO 24294:2013 and ISO 1032:1974, which have been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous editions are as follows:

- updated, corrected and clarified definitions;
- re-ordered term categories and terms within categories to match the subject matter.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Wood is a naturally occurring resource and is the only major construction material that is renewable. Because it is renewable, the use of wood and the many different timber products made from wood, contributes to overall sustainable development. Many of these timber products are intended specifically for use both as structural and non-structural elements in the construction of timber-framed or platform-frame buildings. Properties of wood are affected by species, natural growth characteristics and moisture content and with its unique cell structure; wood has different strength properties in different grain directions.

This document defines terms related to the physical and mechanical characteristics of the many different hardwood and softwood round, sawn and processed timbers in a manner that is consistent and recognized globally. This document has been prepared by the various groups involved in the timber industry, such as manufacturers, builders, wholesalers and importers, as well as research organizations, academia, national regulatory bodies, standards developers and professional design organizations.

Understanding the nature of the various physical characteristics and features of round and sawn timber enables effective communication related to sawn and processed timber, in a manner that is consistently understood by and equitable to all active and potential traders/users. Its use alongside other standards also aids harmonization and provide a basis for specialist terminology.

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Timber — Round and sawn timber — Vocabulary

1 Scope

This document defines terms related to round and sawn timber. It applies to identification of a tree and its components, stages of processing in round and sawn forms, and timber grading, dimensions, anatomical structure, features, moisture content and conditions relating to stain, fungal and insect attack. It does not apply to terms related to strength properties of wood, engineered timber products or timber structures.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

wood

lignocellulosic substance between the *pith* (9.14) and *bark* (9.5) of a tree or a shrub

Note 1 to entry: Lignified materials from bamboo, cork, rattan, palm trees and other monocotyledons are not wood.

Note 2 to entry: Internationally, the terms “wood” and *timber* (3.2) are often used interchangeably to represent the basic material of wood products.

3.2

timber

wood (3.1) in the form of standing or felled trees, or a solid wood product of these after *processing* (3.10)

Note 1 to entry: In the case of processed solid wood products, refers to *round timber* (4.1) and *sawn timber* (5.1). Does not apply to other wood products, such as wood-based panels, veneer, wood pulp, *chips* (3.11) or *sawdust* (3.12).

Note 2 to entry: Internationally, the terms “timber” and “wood” are often used interchangeably to represent the basic material of wood products.

Note 3 to entry: In Canada and the U.S., there is a homograph for the term “timber”. See 5.6.

3.3

species

botanical category classifying a group of distinct trees with a significant level of genetic similarity

EXAMPLE Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and Norway spruce (*Picea abies*).

Note 1 to entry: Usually referred to by a common name and identified by a botanical name that is based on a Linnaean binomial of its genus and species.