

THERMALLY MODIFIED · PREMIUM HARDWOOD

BFP Thermo® Frake Wood

Terminalia superba

A premium West & Central African hardwood transformed by heat-and-steam thermal modification — a consistent warm mid-to-dark brown throughout, exceptionally stable, and completely free of chemicals.

SERVICE LIFE**15–25 yrs****DENSITY****450–600 kg/m³****ORIGIN****West Africa****CERTIFIED****FSC® 100%**

Overview

BFP Thermo® Frake Wood (*Terminalia superba*) is a premium, thermally modified hardwood from sustainably managed West & Central African forests. The modification process uses only **heat and steam** to enhance the timber's cellular structure, resulting in a product with exceptional **dimensional stability** and a consistent warm mid-to-dark brown appearance that is completely free of chemicals. Equilibrium moisture content is permanently reduced to just **4-5%**, upgrading biological durability to **Class 2** with no preservative treatment required.

Key Features

01 Emissions

- The thermal modification process uses only intense heat and steam, with no chemical additives involved.
- Very low Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions for safe indoor and outdoor air quality.

03 Durability & Stability

- Enhanced resistance to decay, rot, and insect attack — upgraded to Durability Class 2.
- Reduces swelling and warping by up to 60% compared to untreated frake.

05 Health & Safety

- Completely non-toxic and free from hazardous chemicals of any kind.
- Safe to handle, cut, and machine using standard workshop safety measures.

02 Colour

- Heat transforms the naturally pale wood into a consistent warm mid-to-dark brown, with a distinctive flame-like grain figure.
- If left untreated, UV rays will weather the brown colour into a silver-grey patina.

04 Physical Properties

- Attractive flame-like grain figure with a medium, even texture; lightweight for easy handling and installation.
- Moderate surface hardness (~660 lbf Janka) gives a firm, stable surface for cladding and decking.

06 Environment

- 100% natural, renewable material from sustainably managed West African forests.
- Chemical-free production with lower environmental impact than pressure-treated timber; fully biodegradable or recyclable.

Technical Specifications

TREATMENT TEMP

215°C (419°F)

PEAK DURATION

2-3 hours

TOTAL CYCLE

~50 hours

ATMOSPHERE

Steam-shielded

SPECIFICATION	DESCRIPTION
Scientific Name	<i>Terminalia superba</i> (Frake / Limba / Korina)
Country of Origin	West & Central Africa
Modification Process	Thermal Modification (Heat + Steam) — Thermo-D class, SFS 5765
Colour Tone	 Warm mid-to-dark brown throughout
Density (approx.)	Medium: 450 – 600 kg/m ³ (avg ~540 untreated, reduced by thermal treatment)
Moisture Content	4-5% equilibrium (reduced from ~12% untreated)
Workability	Good — machines, glues, and finishes cleanly; a grain filler is recommended for the open grain. The thermal process makes the wood slightly more brittle; pre-drilling is recommended.
Movement Class	Small Movement (up to 60% improved dimensional stability vs. untreated frake)
Durability Class	Class 2 - Durable (BS EN 350; upgraded from Class 4-5)
Recommended Fixings	Stainless steel screws or hidden fastening clips are essential to prevent reaction staining on the wood surface.
Expected Service Life	15-25 years above ground, depending on installation method, maintenance, and exposure conditions
Certifications	 Forest Stewardship Council

Figures are nominal averages for thermally modified frake (*Terminalia superba*), cross-checked against published ThermoWood (Thermo-D) and EN 350 durability data, and may vary with natural timber.

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