

THERMALLY MODIFIED · PREMIUM HARDWOOD

BFP Thermo® Merbau Wood

Intsia palembanica

A dense, naturally durable tropical hardwood refined by heat-and-steam thermal modification — a deep red-brown throughout, exceptionally hard and stable, and completely free of chemicals.

SERVICE LIFE

25+ yrs

DENSITY

720-800 kg/m³

ORIGIN

Indo-Malaya

CERTIFIED

FSC® 100%

Overview

BFP Thermo® Merbau Wood (*Intsia palembanica*) is a premium, thermally modified heavy hardwood from sustainably managed Indo-Malayan 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 deep, even red-brown appearance that is completely free of chemicals. Equilibrium moisture content is permanently reduced to just **4-6%**, upgrading biological durability to **Class 2-3** 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

- Already naturally durable and highly termite-resistant; thermal treatment further reduces moisture uptake and decay risk.
- Very low shrinkage (~1.5% radial, 2.5% tangential) is reduced further — stability approaching that of teak.

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 deepens the naturally orange-brown timber to a consistent dark red-brown tone, coloured evenly through the full thickness.
- If left untreated, UV rays will weather the brown colour into a silver-grey patina.

04 Physical Properties

- Interlocked to wavy grain with a coarse but even texture, distinct growth rings, and gold mineral flecking.
- Very hard surface (~1,700–1,850 lbf Janka) suited to decking, high-traffic flooring, and exterior joinery.

06 Environment

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

Technical Specifications

TREATMENT TEMP

200–215°C

PEAK DURATION

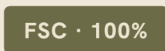
2–3 hours

TOTAL CYCLE

~50 hours

ATMOSPHERE

Steam-shielded

SPECIFICATION	DESCRIPTION
Scientific Name	<i>Intsia palembanica</i> (Merbau; also Kwila, Ipil)
Country of Origin	Indo-Malaya & Western Pacific
Modification Process	Thermal Modification (Heat + Steam) — Thermo-D class, SFS 5765
Colour Tone	 Deep red-brown throughout
Density (approx.)	Heavy: 720 – 800 kg/m ³ (~800–860 kg/m ³ untreated air-dry, reduced ~5–10% by thermal treatment)
Moisture Content	4–6% equilibrium (reduced from ~12% untreated)
Workability	Good — sands and finishes well, but mineral deposits gum saw teeth; carbide tooling and pre-drilling are essential.
Movement Class	Small Movement (very low shrinkage: ~1.5% radial, 2.5% tangential — comparable to teak)
Durability Class	Class 1–2 - Very Durable (naturally durable; enhanced by thermal treatment)
Recommended Fixings	Stainless steel screws or hidden fastening clips are essential to prevent reaction staining on the wood surface.
Expected Service Life	25+ years above ground, depending on installation method, maintenance, and exposure conditions
Certifications	 Forest Stewardship Council

Figures are nominal averages for thermally modified merbau (*Intsia palembanica*), cross-checked against ITTO, MTC, and published Janka data; may vary with natural timber.

BFP

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