

BALSA



THE BALSA STORY

Balsa panels were conceptualized for interior designers and architects who continually search for sustainably sourced, naturally lighter and unique material surfacing options. Sourced from rapidly-renewable tree plantations in South America and certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, Balsa panels provide excellent strength with stunning raw aesthetics. To achieve this, TorZo® uses proprietary layering processes that retain the natural beauty of balsa while increasing the rigidness-to-weight properties. With raw elegance, Balsa is a premier selection for those looking for sustainable, decorative paneling in commercial or residential settings.

PANORAMIC ELEGANCE

Raw Balsa panels can be used in applications where all edges and surfaces are exposed illuminating raw beauty from every angle. Balsa is offered in 36" x 96" x 1/4" and 36" x 96" x 3/4" (1/2" baltic birch).

KEY FEATURES

- Excellent rigidness-to-weight ratio
- Superb sound and thermal insulation properties
- Naturally resistant to styrene and other chemicals
- Moisture resistant and can withstand extreme conditions
- Sustainably grown from certified, rapidly-renewable plantations

IDEAL FOR

- Wall paneling
- Casework
- Furniture
- Tabletops
- Horizontal surfaces
- Retail store fixtures

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FABRICATION

Balsa panels require the same fabrication equipment, techniques and products as typical wood substrates. No unique technology is required.

SURFACES

All Balsa panels are made from layered Balsa tree veneers and may show slight color and grain pattern variation. Panel faces may include small voids naturally occurring in raw material which can be filled with stainable wood filler if desired.

HANDLING

Store Balsa panels in climate-controlled conditions on flat, level surface with adequate support.

MACHINING AND FASTENING

Balsa panels are worked using standard fabricating techniques applicable for plywood panel products and will accept standard fasteners and wood adhesives. Care should be taken when cutting and machining Balsa, as the edges can splinter similar to vertical grain fir lumber. TorZo® recommends a minimum of 3/16" round over on all exposed edges for best results.

FINISHING

Standard wood stains and finishes can be used on Balsa panels. Follow finish manufacturer's instructions for best results. TorZo recommends applying a heavy and durable finish especially for horizontal applications.

For in-depth fabrication information, please see the TorZo Fabrication Guide at torzosurfaces.com.

SPECS

PROPERTY	BALSA FUSION	UNITS
Thickness	11/16	inches
Density	26	lbs/ft ³
Internal Bond	180	lbs/ft ²
Modulus of Rupture	4,424	lbs/ft ²
Modulus of Elasticity	564,062	lbs/ft ²
Janka Hardness	252	lbs
Screw Holding Face	431	lbs required to pull 1" #10 sheet metal screw
Screw Holding Edge	413	lbs required to pull 1" #10 sheet metal screw
Moisture Content	6.4	%, oven dry basis
Fire Rating	B	ASTM E84 (*can be A with proper coating)

Balsa is manufactured exclusively for TorZo Sustainable Surfaces by 3A Composites Architectural Products.

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COLOR

Balsa is offered in a natural wood tone and can be custom stained and finished in a variety of color/gloss combinations.