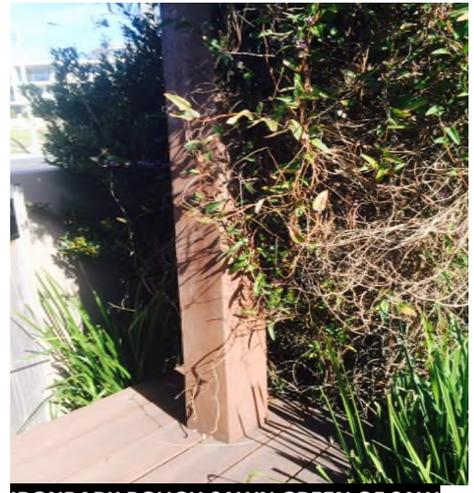




IRONBARK ROUGH SAWN GREEN OFF SAW



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EXTERNAL TIMBER ROUGH SAWN GREEN OFF SAW

Understanding the difference between seasoned and unseasoned timber.

Density- As applied to timber density is the mass of wood substance and moisture enclosed within a piece expressed in kilograms per cubic meter. As this mass will vary dependent on the amount of moisture in the piece.

All freshly cut timbers contain water, the moisture content of freshly sawn timber is in the range of 60% to 100%, which means the water component can be as high as one part water to one part wood substance.

Dense hardwoods have relatively low "green" moisture content compared to young soft sapwood. Example; Ironbark Spotted Gum, Tallowwood and Blackbutt 40-60% MC, whilst radita pine may have a MC exceeding 200%.

Species of high density are slow to dry (higher density timbers are Grey Box and Ironbark

To air dry timber 50mm thick it may take up to nine months to bring its moisture content down to 25%, than if the timber was to be used as flooring it would have to go into a kiln to bring the moisture content down to 12% for stability.

You may ask why I am giving you all these statistics. You need to understand that when ordering Structural Hardwood that if you want the thickness greater than 50mm, it will not be kiln dried, it is green off the saw and there will be shrinkage in both radial and tangential directions.

Hence, seasoned timber will be seldom available in large cross sections. If requiring large cross sections of timber thicker than 50mm you need to use Recycled Timber and Green Off The Saw.

When using Green off the Saw shrinkage rate allowance to be considered with each species.

Approximate rule of thumb, shrinkage rate:

Ironbark 5%, Spotted Gum 5%, Tallowwood 5% and Blackbutt 6%

What does this really mean?

If you order a piece of Green Spotted Gum finish size 150mm x 150mm it will shrink approximately to 142mm x 142mm

Table 1 - NATURAL DURABILITY – PROBABLE LIFE EXPECTANCY*

Durability refers resistance of the heartwood to attack by fungi, insects when the timber is exposed to adverse conditions. Durability 1 and 2 recommended for external use.

Class	Probable in-ground life	Probable above ground life
1. Ironbark Grey box, tallowwood	Greater than 25 years	Greater than 40 years
2. Spotted Gum, Blackbutt	7 to 15 years	15 to 25 years
3. Stringybark, Sydney Blue Gum, Ash, Brushbox, Tasi oak	5 to 15 years	7 to 15 years

