

# Technical Information > Timber Species Database

## > Wenge



Millettia laurentii, Millettia stuhlmannii  
**Also known as:** panga panga, palissandre du Congo, dikela (Zaire)

<b>Wood type</b>	Hardwood
<b>Environmental</b>	The <a href="#">IUCN Red List</a> of Threatened Species classifies <i>M.laurentii</i> as <b>EN</b> – Endangered: at very high risk of extinction. Not listed in CITES. Believed available from well-managed sources. Check certification status with suppliers.
<b>Distribution</b>	Mainly found in Zaire, but an associated species, <i>Millettia stuhlmannii</i> occurs in East Africa. It is known as panga panga, and its general appearance and characteristics closely resemble wenge.
<b>The Tree</b>	Medium-sized tree, 15m to 18m in height with a diameter up to 1.0m.
<b>The Timber</b>	Sapwood whitish, heartwood dark brown with fine, close blackish veining, giving the wood a handsome appearance. A very hard and heavy wood, it weighs about 880 kg/m <sup>3</sup> when dried (panga panga is slightly lighter in weight at 800 kg/m <sup>3</sup> ). Straight grained, it has a rather coarse texture.
<b>Drying</b>	Dries slowly and requires care if surface checking is to be avoided.
<b>Strength</b>	The wood is stated to have good resistance to bending and to shock.
<b>Working Qualities</b>	Good - Reported to be easy to work, but difficult to polish.
<b>Durability</b>	Durable
<b>Treatability</b>	Extremely difficult
<b>Moisture Movement</b>	Small
<b>Density (mean, Kg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	880 (density may vary by 20% or more)
<b>Texture</b>	Coarse
<b>Availability</b>	Limited

<b>Price</b>	Medium
<b>Use(s)</b>	Exterior joinery, Interior joinery, Turnery, Flooring
<b>Colour(s)</b>	Dark brown/black (with fine black veining)