



Natural wood
Made to last

Product Guide



Sustainable Wood for Long Lasting Projects





Content

Decking	04
Kebony Deck Board	06
Installation Videos	08
Boardwalk Decking	10
Cladding	12
Click-in Cladding™ System	14
Passive Rainscreen System	18
Kebony Character Cladding	20
Site Furnishings	22
Millwork	28
Design vs. Build	30
About Kebony	32
The Modification Process	36
Performance	38
Kebony vs. Ipé	40
Kebony vs. Thermally-Modified	42
How to Buy	46

Decking

Sourced from FSC®-Certified forests, our Kebony® Clear decking is engineered to handle the harshest of conditions. The rich brown color and clear grain are designed to impress, while hardwood-like durability and a 30-year warranty provide supreme peace of mind. Whether you maintain the original color or let Kebony Clear naturally patina, your project will amaze for decades to come.

Decking Products

- Kebony Deck Board
- Boardwalk Decking

[Learn more at www.Kebony.us](http://www.Kebony.us)





PEACHED CASITA TINY HOUSE

Dripping Springs, TX

Product: Kebony Deck Board

Builder: Kim Lewis of Kim Lewis Design

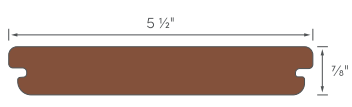
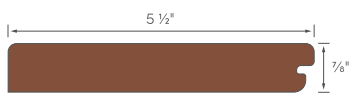
Photography: Kristian Alveo

The Kebony Deck Board

The Only 4-in-1 Wood Decking Profile

The Kebony Deck Board is the most versatile wood decking profile on the market. We've engineered a profile that can be fastened in four different ways, making it easy to secure your surface decking according to your needs without added milling or lead time. Whether you want to fasten through the face of the board, plug, use hidden fasteners or the patented Step-Clip™ for Kebony system, the Kebony Deck Board is ready to go.

- 30-year, non-prorated warranty against rot
- No maintenance required
- Evenly fades to silver-gray patina when left unfinished
- End-seal wax not needed or recommended

Profile	Product Number	Product Name	Actual Dimensions	Lengths
	#2637	5/4x6 Kebony Deck Board	7/8" x 5 1/2"	10', 12', 14', 16'
	#2638	5/4x6 Kebony Deck Board One-Sided Profile	7/8" x 5 1/2"	14'

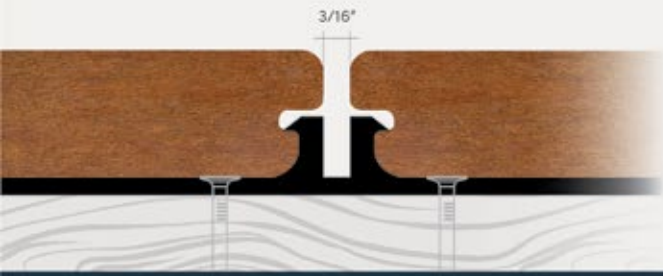


In Stock in the USA

Learn more at www.Kebony.us



Step-Clip® for Kebony

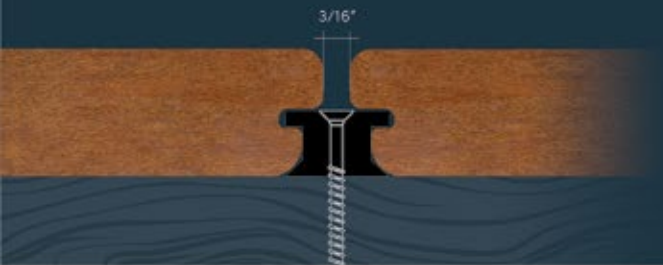


HIGHLIGHTS

- Fastest of the four install options
- Step-Clip® strip doubles as joist protection
- Automatic and consistent deck board spacing
- Easy board replacement

*Step-Clip® Is A Registered Trademark Of Barrette Outdoor Living, Inc.,
Used With Permission By Kebony*

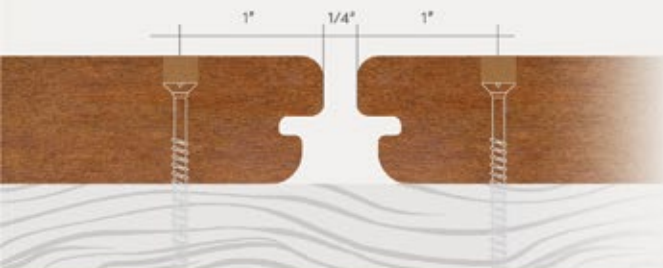
Fastenator™ Hidden Fasteners



HIGHLIGHTS

- Automatic and consistent deck board spacing
- Works great for diagonal and herringbone deck patterns
- Ideal for resurfacing and/or out of square framing
- Stainless steel screws are pre-loaded in clip for quick and easy fastening

Pro Plug® System for Kebony

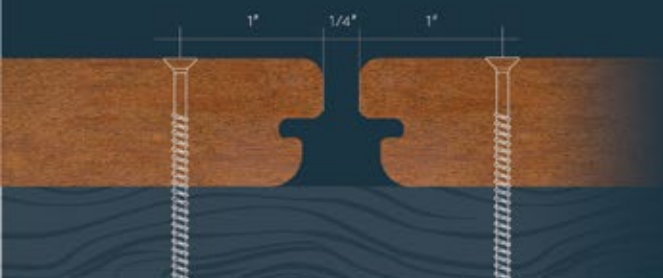


HIGHLIGHTS

- Hidden fasteners with face fastened strength
- Plugs made from actual Kebony face grain, so they perfectly match the surface
- Patented Pro Plug® Tool pre-drills and counterbores simultaneously for a perfect fit
- Kebony Kits include screws, plugs, glue nozzle and drill bit (Pro Plug® Tool and glue sold separately)

PRO TIP: Keep screws at least 1" from the end and edges of the boards.

Face Fastened



HIGHLIGHTS

- Ensures a secured board to the joist

PRO TIPS

- Pre-drill holes prior to fastening
- Use Stainless Steel Screws
- Keep screws at least 1" from the end and edges of the boards.
- Make sure screws are flush with top of the deck board to maintain a smooth and safe surface

Installation Videos





How to Install the Kebony Deck Board

The Kebony Deck Board's versatile design gives you the option of using several types of hidden fasteners. We've created informative videos outlining best practices in installation of our three hidden fastener options, click the QR code below to view the videos.



Kebony Deck Board: Fastenator™ Hidden Fasteners



Kebony Deck Board: Step-Clip for Kebony



Kebony Deck Board: Pro Plug System for Kebony



MT COPELAND

How to Build a Free Standing Deck

Learn how to properly design, frame, and build a code-compliant freestanding deck, and take these skills onsite from start to finished product with expert builder and craftsman Mike Guertin. Provided by MT Copeland • mtcopeland.com




**Learn how deck finishes determine the framing plan
with Mike Guertin from MT Copeland**

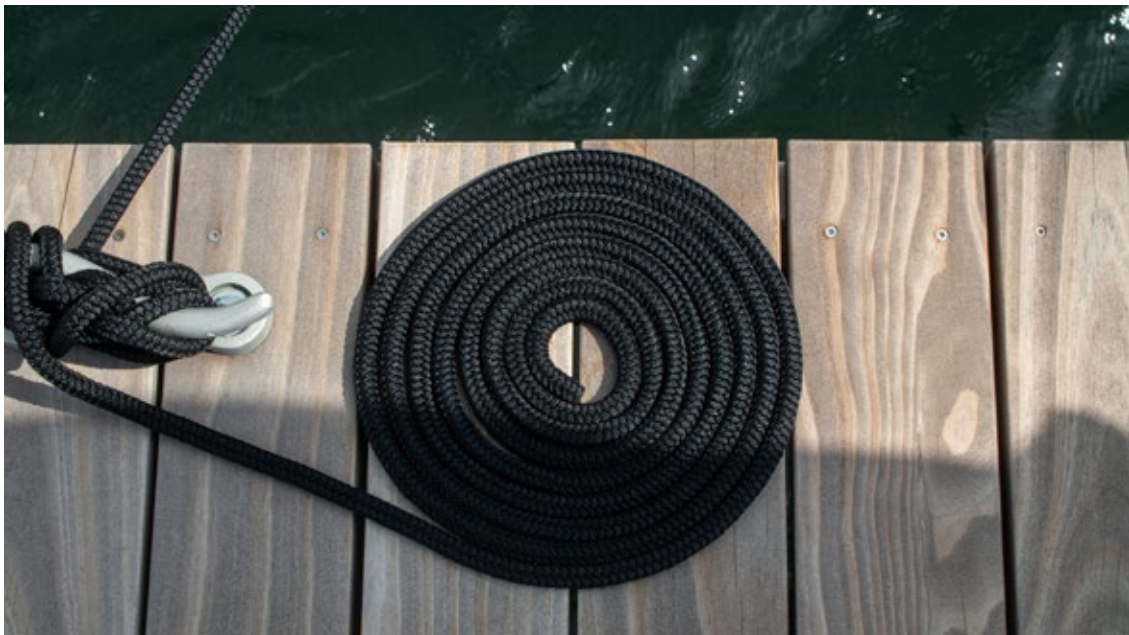


Boardwalk Decking

Kebony Clear is perfect for high traffic areas like boardwalks and docks. With larger available dimensions and enhanced stability, choosing Kebony will ensure your project will withstand heavy use and retain beauty as it patinas to a silver-gray over time. Kebony's boardwalk product is the go-to for award-winning outdoor spaces across the country, including The Wharf in Washington D.C. and New York City's Hunter's Point South.

Profile	Product Number	Product Name	Actual Dimensions	Lengths
	#2522	2x6 Square S4S E2E	1 1/2" x 5 1/2"	10', 12', 14', 16'

Learn more at www.Kebony.us





WASHINGTON PARK MARINA
Michigan City, Indiana
Product: 5/4x6 Clear Boardwalk
Design and Build: Edgewater Resources
Photography: Kristian Alveo

Cladding

Kebony is leading the way in sustainable and long-lasting real wood cladding. Our award-winning cladding projects have solidified Kebony as the go-to for America's top architects. Kebony cladding is unmatched in beauty, durability, and sustainability.

Cladding Products

- Click-in Cladding™ System
- Passive Rainscreen System
- Kebony Character Cladding

[Learn more at www.Kebony.us](http://www.Kebony.us)





MORRIS ISLAND RESIDENCE

Morris Island, Chatham, MA

Product: Kebony Clear Cladding

Architect: Monte French Design Studio

Builder: Haycon, Inc.

Photography: Jane Messinger and Kristian Alveo (left photo)



Click-in Cladding™ System

Kebony Cladding Board

One Board Designed for Multiple Aesthetics

Our Kebony Cladding Board was designed to give you the look you want without being overwhelmed with custom profile options. The grooves on the back of the board fit seamlessly with the Grad™ Mini Rail system, giving you the option of installing the board vertically or horizontally with two popular gap sizes to choose from.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 35-yr residential and 30-yr commercial warranty against rot
- No maintenance required
- Fades to silver-gray patina when left unfinished
- In stock, no custom milling required
- One board with 2 gap size options

Profile	Product Number	Product Name	Actual Dimensions	Lengths
	#2682	1x6 Clear Cladding Board	1 6/16" x 5 11/16"	10', 12', 14', 16'



In Stock in the USA

Learn more at www.Kebony.us





Grad™ Mini Rail

Grad™ Mini Rail clips are factory-placed in position, so the installer simply fastens the rails onto the sheathing or vapor barrier and snaps the boards on. The rails create a natural air gap so there's no need to install furring strips ahead of time.

Based on the desired aesthetic, Grad™ Mini Rails come in two different gap sizes and can be installed vertically or horizontally.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Patented clips pre-mounted on aluminum rails
- Uniform spacing for the perfect look
- Built-in air gap behind the boards
- A true hidden fastening system
- 50% faster installation time
- Made of 100% recyclable aluminum and POM (polyoxymethylene)
- No pre-drilling of the boards or rails required

Watch a video about the Grad™ Mini Rail system

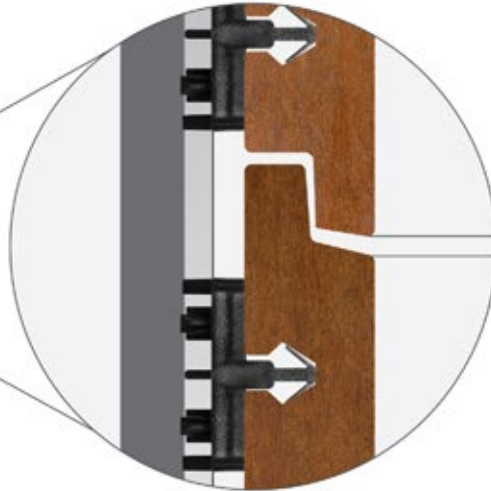


1x6 w/Narrow Gap

Product Number: G2171

Rail Length: Approximately 6 ft.

Coverage: 190 sf/box (16" OC spacing), 285 sf/box (24" OC spacing)



$\frac{5}{32}$ "

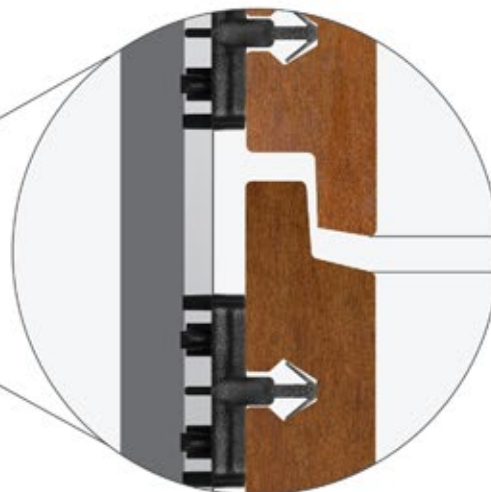
The narrow gap gives a similar appearance to a nickel gap profile.

1x6 w/Wide Gap

Product Number: G2172

Rail Length: Approximately 6 ft.

Coverage: 190 sf/box (16" OC spacing), 285 sf/box (24" OC spacing)



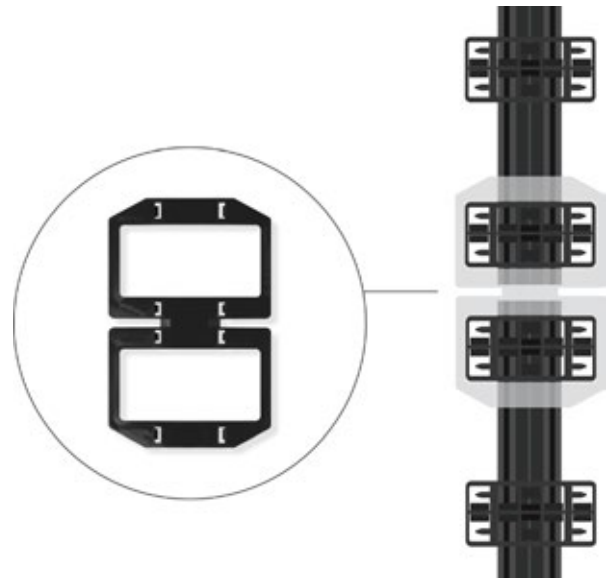
$\frac{17}{64}$ "

The wide gap gives a similar appearance to a shiplap profile.

Accessories

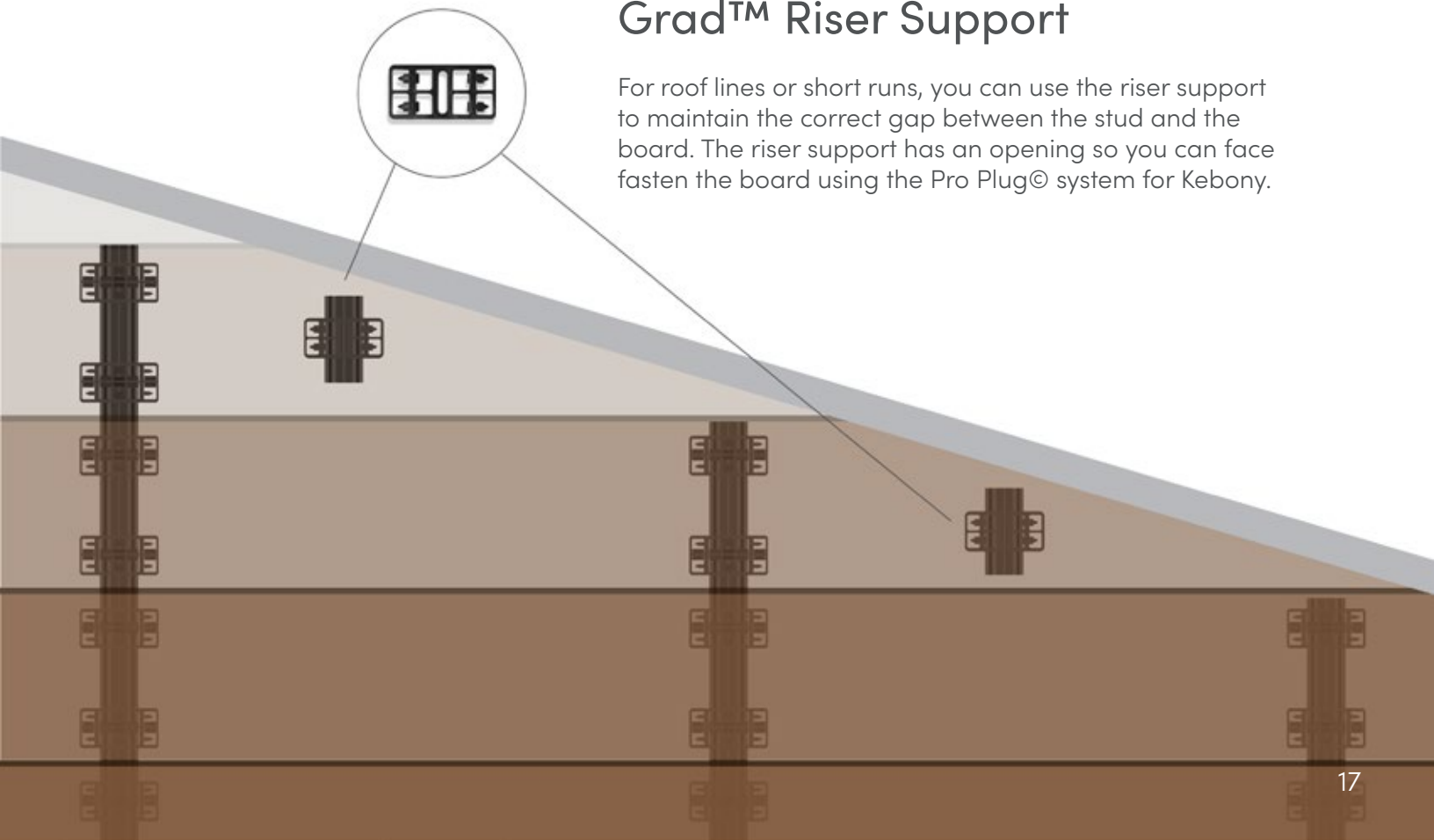
Grad™ Spacing Template

Included in your Mini Rail box will be a spacing template. This tool is placed between an existing rail and the next rail to keep alignment and gap spacing uniform across the project.



Grad™ Riser Support

For roof lines or short runs, you can use the riser support to maintain the correct gap between the stud and the board. The riser support has an opening so you can face fasten the board using the Pro Plug© system for Kebony.





WOODINVILLE WHISKEY CO.

Quincy, WA

Product: Kebony Clear Passive Rainscreen System

Architect: Graham Baba Architects

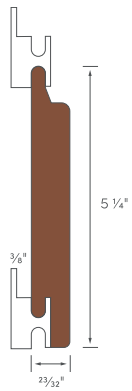
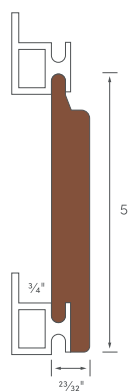
Builder: Rimmer and Roeter

Photography: Kristian Alveo

Passive Rainscreen System

The Passive Rainscreen System (PRS) goes beyond a traditional rainscreen to deliver maximum performance and aesthetics. A combination of marine-grade aluminum clips and perfectly matched Kebony Clear cladding, the PRS replaces common wood furring strips to create passive air flow between the cladding and sheathing. Its unique cladding profile creates a gap while providing increased protection from the elements, leading to a longer-lasting project all while hiding the fastener from view.

Passive Rainscreen System

<p>1x6 Clear Rainscreen Cladding (#KPRS1X6)</p> <p>Actual Dimensions: $2\frac{3}{32}'' \times 5\frac{1}{4}''$</p> <p>Face: $4\frac{9}{16}''$</p> <p>Gap: $\frac{1}{4}''$</p> <p>Lengths: 10', 12', 14', 16'</p>	<p>Low-Profile Clip (#K975657LP)</p> <p>Rainscreen Gap: $\frac{3}{8}''$</p> 	<p>High-Profile Clip (#K975656HP)</p> <p>Rainscreen Gap: $\frac{3}{4}''$</p> 
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Learn more at www.Kebony.us



Passive Rainscreen cladding is special order, which may result in a longer lead time. Get more information and installation guides at www.kebony.us.

Kebony Character Cladding

The knotty grain of Kebony Character cladding gives your project a rustic feel at a value-conscious price. Kebony Character goes through the same modification process and comes with up to a 30-yr warranty against rot.



FULSHEAR MODERN RANCH ESTATE

Fulshear, TX

Product: 1x6 Character 90 Degree Shiplap (#2216)

Designer: David Wersbe

Photography: Kristian Alveo

Profile	Product Number	Product Name	Actual Dimensions	Lengths
	#2335	1x3 Character Square	21 x 73 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#1407	1x4 Character Square	21 x 98 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#2336	1x5 Character Square	21 x 123 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#2338	1x8 Character Square	21 x 198 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#2216	1x6 Character 90 Degree Shiplap	21 x 148 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#2242	1x6 Character 60 Degree Shiplap w/Shadow	21 x 148 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#2168	70 Degree Rhombus	29 x 59 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m
	#1217	Character Melsomslat	61 x 48 mm	3 m, 3.6 m, 4.2 m, 4.8 m

Learn more at www.Kebonys.us



All profiles are special order, which may result in a longer lead time. Get more information and installation guides at www.kebonys.us.

Kebony Site Furnishings

Kebony Site Furnishings merge the strength, stability, and sustainability of Kebony with modern fabrication design. We've partnered with trusted custom furniture makers to produce furnishings built to last. Whether choosing from our curated furniture line or seeking a custom design for your public space, Kebony Site Furnishings will make a natural statement.

Product Lines

- North Cape
- Custom Design

[Learn more at www.Kebony.us](http://www.Kebony.us)





INLAND EMPIRE HEALTH PLAN

Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Builder: Angeles Contractors
Manufacturer: DM Braun



North Cape

by Kebony

The most northern part of Norway, North Cape boasts a stunning cliffside view of the Northern Lights over the Arctic Sea. Marked by an iconic steel globe, we drew inspiration from the rugged beauty of North Cape coupled with the modern technology of Kebony. This collection is designed to blend beautifully with its surroundings, perfect for public areas or landmarks like its namesake.

North Cape Features

- Modern Design
- Steel Framed Construction
- Stainless Steel Screws
- Kebony Clear Grade Slats
- Powder Coating and Hot-Dipped Galvanized Options Available

■ Custom Design & Fabrication Also Available



Radius Bench

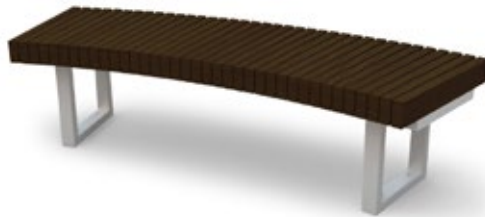
- Hot-Dipped Galvanized Steel Frame
- Anchor side-by-side to form full bench
- Create different patterns by reversing bench positions

Section

Length: 75 ¼"

Width: 24"

Height: 19"



Full Bench (5 Sections)

Bench Length: 378 ½"

Length: 278 ⅝"

Depth: 113 ⅝"

Radius: 150°



Standard Bench (6' Bench)

- Sandblasted, Primed & Powder Coated
- Stainless Steel Anchor Feet
- Popular Powder Coating Colors



Length*: 60" - 84"

Width: 22 ½"

Height: 32 ⅜"



*lengths outside this range considered custom

Backless Bench

- Sandblasted, Primed & Powder Coated
- Stainless Steel Anchor Feet
- Popular Powder Coating Colors



Length*: 36" - 84"

Width: 19"

Height: 18 1/2"

*lengths outside this range considered custom



Picnic Table + Swivel Chairs

- Sandblasted, Primed & Powder Coated
- 2 1/2" Diameter Umbrella Hole w/ Umbrella Base
- Chairs mounted on swivel bases
- Stainless Steel Foot Spacers
- Stainless Steel Anchor Tabs
- Ships fully assembled and ready to anchor
- Popular Powder Coating Colors



Standard Table

Length: 88"

Width: 88"

Height: 34 1/4"

Table Size: 42" Square

Chair Height: 19 3/8"

Table Height: 30 1/4"



ADA Table

Length: 88"

Width: 64 3/4"

Height: 34 1/4"

Chair Height: 19 3/8"

Table Height: 30 1/4"



Swivel Chair

Seat: 3° tilt back

Seat Back: 100° angle

Memory Seat Swivel

Seat is 18" from Center

Picnic Table

- Sandblasted, Primed & Powder Coated
- Stainless Steel Anchor Feet
- Popular Powder Coating Colors



Table

Length: 72"

Width: 31"

Height: 30"

Standard Bench

Length: 72"

Width: 19"

Height: 18 ½"

ADA Bench

Length: 36"

Width: 19"

Height: 18 ½"



Receptacle

- Sandblasted, Primed & Powder Coated
- 32 Gallon Rigid Liner Included
- Detachable Aluminum Lid
- Available with a Recycle Symbol
- Stainless Steel Anchor Tabs
- Popular Powder Coating Colors



Diameter: 26 ¾"

Opening: 10"

Height: 34"



Millwork

Our Kebony Clear lumber has tremendous versatility compared to tropical hardwoods. Not only is our FSC®-Certified wood easy to work, it is dimensionally stable. The modification process changes the cell structure of the wood without harsh additives or glues to get in the way. For this reason, Kebony can handle heavy use on commercial benches, create stunningly intricate outdoor sculptures, or get milled down for wooden guitar picks and silverware handles.

PARK 55 ENTRY

Santa Ana, CA

Product: 2x6 Clear Boardwalk (#2522)

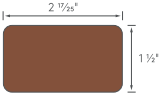
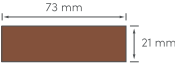
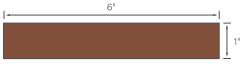




Architect: RCH Studios

Builder: KPRS

Photography: James Burniston





Profile	Product Number	Product Name	Actual Dimensions	Lengths	LF/SF Conversion
	#2480	2x3 Clear Beam S4S E4E	1 1/2" x 2 17/25"	10', 12', 14', 16'	4.5
	#2535	1x4 Rough Sawn	1" x 4"	10', 12', 14', 16'	N/A
	#1935	1x6 Rough Sawn	1" x 6"	10', 12', 14', 16'	N/A
	#1931	1x8 Rough Sawn	1" x 8"	10', 12', 14', 16'	N/A
	#2423	2x4 Rough Sawn	2" x 4"	10', 12', 14', 16'	N/A
	#2489	2x6 Rough Sawn	2" x 6"	10', 12', 14', 16'	N/A
	#2537	2x8 Rough Sawn	2" x 8"	10', 12', 14', 16'	N/A

Learn more at www.Kebony.us



All profiles are special order, which may result in a longer lead time. Get more information and installation guides at www.kebony.us.

Design Build

**One Impressive Project.
Two Unique Perspectives**



Presented by Kebony, Design vs. Build is a new video series concept that explores the differences in how the Architect/Designer and the Builder see a project as it moves from an idea to the construction phase and then a finished structure. Each episode will feature a different residential or commercial project with interviews from architects, designers, project managers, and more as they walk you through the project from their point of view.

View all episodes and more at www.designvsbuild.com





Season 2 Now Streaming



AWARDS

THE TELLY AWARDS

Gold Winner

2021 Branded Content: Videography / Cinematography

Gold Winner

2021 Online: Videography / Cinematography

Gold Winner

2021 Online: Documentary - Individual

Gold Winner

2020 Online Series: Documentary

Gold Winner

2020 Branded Content: Video/ Cinematography

Silver Winner

2020 Online Series: Non-Scripted

W3

Gold Winner

Video Series for Web

Silver Winner

Best Use of Cinematography

About Kebony

Natural wood made to last.

Headquartered in Oslo, Norway, Kebony is the leading global modified wood brand. Underpinned by proven and patented timber modification technologies, it produces an enhanced wood of superior quality that is both environmentally friendly and cost-effective.

From its production facilities located in Skien, Norway, and Flanders, Belgium, Kebony redefines standards in the timber industry and new possibilities for wood as a sustainable construction material. Kebony has sales and distribution across Europe spanning into North America and the rest of the world.

The company has received numerous awards and accolades for its environmentally friendly technology and innovation, including being named a World Economic Forum Technology Pioneer, repeated recognition as a Global Cleantech 100 company, and a 2019 Building, Design + Construction Top 101 Products Reader's Choice Winner.

Kebony Technology

Fully compliant with EU Timber Legislation, Kebony technology permanently transforms sustainable wood species such as pine into finished products with characteristics comparable to and, in some cases, better-performing than tropical hardwoods. This unique, patented technology is a process whereby sustainably sourced wood species are impregnated with furfuryl alcohol, which is derived from agricultural crop waste. With the addition of heat, the furfuryl polymer is permanently grafted into the wood cell wall, resulting in greatly improved durability and dimensional stability, making the wood strong and resistant to biological decay and harsh weather conditions.

FSC®-certified, Kebony wood provides architects and specifiers with a product that is unrivalled in its performance, delivering aesthetic value and durability.



Kebony's mission

Through active innovation and forward thinking, we will continue to produce beautiful, long-lasting and environmentally friendly wood products. The company will promote and practice social responsibility to improve the environment in a way that builds a better future.





THE MINNE STUGA CABIN

Grand Marais, MN

Decking: Kebony Character

Cladding: Kebony Clear Shiplap & Kebony Character

Designer and Builder: Taiga Design Build

Owner/Designer: Melissa Coleman "The Faux Martha"

Photography: Kristian Alveo

The Modification Process

Developed in Norway, Kebony is an environmentally friendly, patented process that enhances the properties of sustainable softwood with a bio-based liquid. The process permanently modifies the wood cell walls, giving Kebony premium hardwood characteristics and a rich brown color throughout in two basic steps.

Step 1: Impregnation

Impregnation is the process in which the wood is infused with furfuryl alcohol (FA) produced from a bio-based liquid to make it dimensionally stable.

Step 2: Curing and Drying

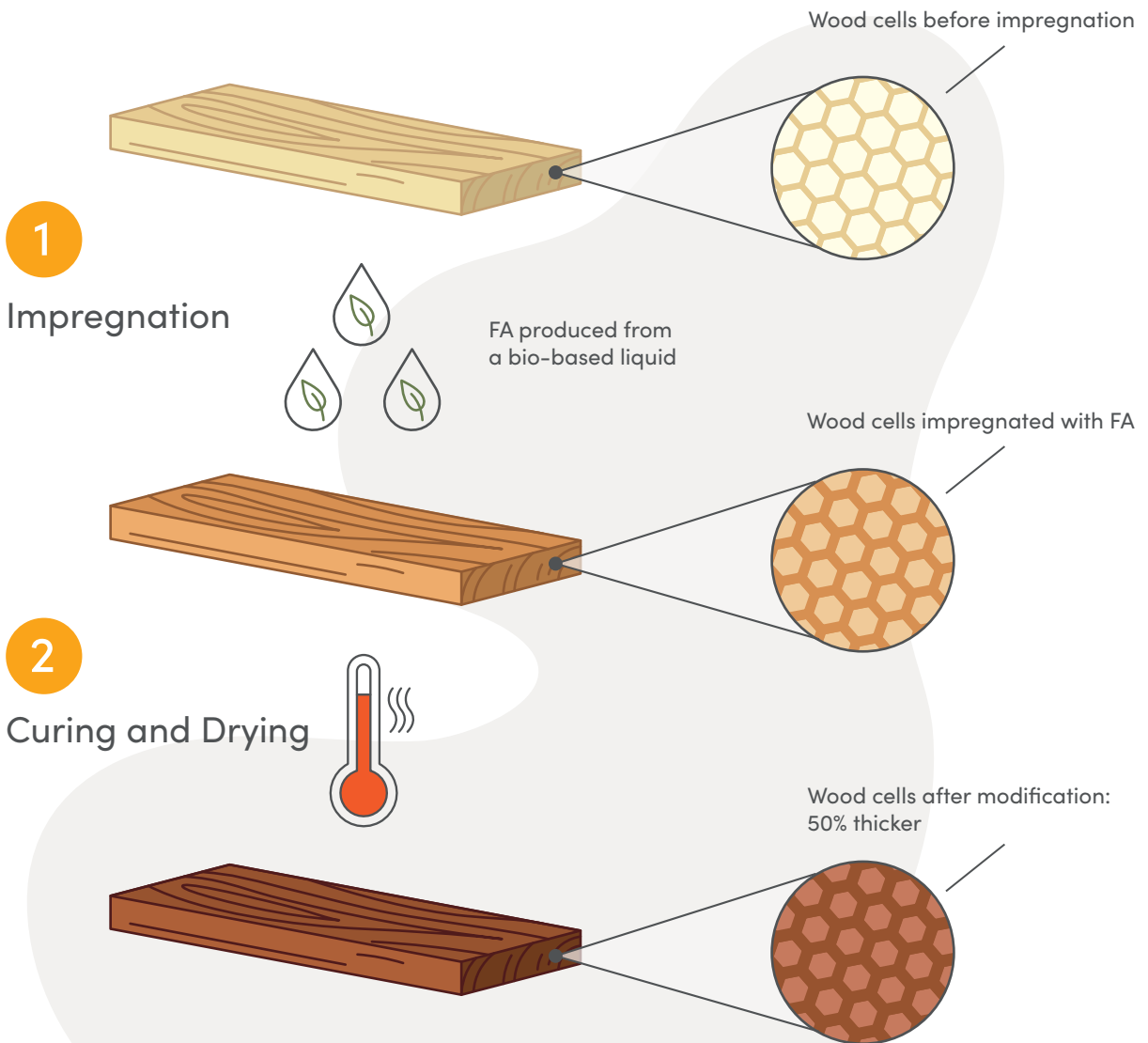
After impregnation, the wood is heated, also known as curing. The resulting polymer, which is now permanently locked into the wood cells, is stable and will not disintegrate or leach out of the wood.

Result: Kebony Wood

After modification, the wood cell walls are 50 percent thicker due to the stable, locked-in polymers. This permanent modification of the wood cell walls gives the final wood product outstanding stability, the maximum amount of hardness and a guaranteed long life. Kebony wood also provides a high level of safety as the wood does not splinter and contains no toxins or chemicals, as well as staying cooler in the summer.

Because Kebony permanently changes the wood's behaviors as compared to natural woods, there is no need to consistently maintain the surface for longevity; you can simply let the wood naturally gray like Ipé or other Brazilian hardwoods.

Steps

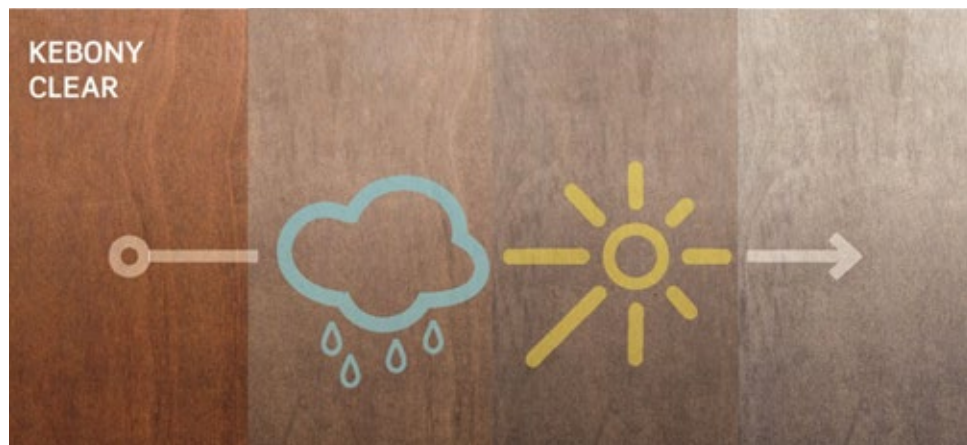


Stable, locked-in furan polymers in the wood cell walls give:
Outstanding stability • Maximum hardness • Guaranteed long life

Performance

Appearance

All Kebony woods have a deep brown color that will turn to a silver-gray patina over time. The speed of this graying process depends on the intensity of exposure to environmental elements like the sun and rain combined with the type of application.



Kebony Clear RAP products are produced from FSC®-certified *Pinus Radiata*, they have a clear front surface and are treated through the board. They can be further machined as any other hardwood.



Kebony Character products are produced from FSC®-certified *Pinus Sylvestris* and contain knots and untreated heartwood. They should not be further machined or split as untreated heartwood will be exposed. Kebony Character products can be cross-cut to length. Exposed end grain after cross-cutting must be treated with a wood preservative.



Durability, Hardness & Maximum Movement

Wood species	Durability 1=best EN 350	Hardness Janka (lbf)	Swelling Dry to wet in tangential direction (%)
Ipe	1	3510	6
Kebony Clear RAP	1	1618	4
Teak	1	1070	3 - 4
Thermo Ash	1 - 2	900	5
Kebony Character	1 - 2*	630	6
Thermo Pine	2	600	4
Western Red Cedar	2 - 3	350	5

*Heartwood

Kebony vs. Ipé

Whether you call it epay, ipe, or I.P.E. (the correct pronunciation is ee-pay, FYI), the Brazilian Hardwood known as Ipé is starting to come under fire; literally and figuratively. Between increased fires in the Amazon Basin and illegal harvesting, it's time to start looking for Alternatives for Ipé.

So, how does Kebony stack up against Ipe and other Brazilian hardwoods? We are going to look at 5 main characteristics.

Durability

Ipé has always been known for its strength, being branded as "Iron Wood" by some importers. There's no doubt Ipé is extremely durable, in terms of hardness, the Brazilian Hardwood is more than twice as hard as Kebony Clear on the Janka hardness test. Ipé is also touted as lasting 75-100 years; that's a long time!

How strong is too strong?

Kebony is not as hard as Ipé, but does it need to be? Kebony does come with a 30-year warranty and is still as hard as other Brazilian Hardwoods. Ipé's density makes it extremely hard to work with, so be prepared to pre-drill and buy extra carbide-tipped saw blades. The biggest advantage Kebony has over Ipé is in stability. Kebony's modification process makes it very resistant to warping, cupping and splintering, which is a common problem with any tropical hardwood that leads to added waste.

Winner: Ipé for density, Kebony for stability and warranty

Appearance

Kebony Clear and Ipé are very similar in appearance. Both have a rich brown color, and both will naturally fade to a nice light gray unless regularly oiled. Both products also have a clear and straight grain pattern. The difference in Kebony and Ipé is the consistency. Kebony has a very uniform color and grain pattern, where Ipé will have variations in color and grain. Ipé has varying grades as well, so know what you are getting before it arrives.

Winner: Kebony for its uniformity

Maintenance

Both products have nearly identical maintenance routines. If you would like Kebony or Ipé to patina to a silver/gray, then little to no maintenance is required. Just let nature run its course. If you would like to keep the lustrous brown color of either product, regularly use a UV inhibiting Hardwood Oil. With Ipé, the extreme density of the wood means the Hardwood Oil won't soak into the wood, so be sure to back wipe excess oil within 15 minutes of application. Kebony will require some back wiping, but the oil will also soak into the wood.

Winner: Tie

Environmental Impact

This area is where Kebony and Ipé differ the most. Kebony is sustainably harvested from FSC®-certified forests. Because Kebony uses responsibly managed lumber and eco-friendly chemicals, it is an incredible green product: perfect for gaining LEED points for a project. Ipé? Well, that all depends on the mill. Unless the importer visits the sawmills personally, it's hard to know whether or not your Ipé was illegally harvested. Even when the rainforest is properly managed, Ipé trees take 80-100 years to mature. One thing is certain: Ipé is not sustainable and the supply of Ipé in the Amazon will eventually run out in the distant future. Ipé could even end up on the CITES Appendix II List in the next several years, making it very hard to harvest.

Obvious Winner: Kebony

Value

A price comparison will vary depending on region. Generally speaking, 5/4x6 Kebony Clear decking is priced right in between 1x6 Ipé and 5/4x6 Ipé. The added benefit of Kebony is it comes in premium lengths like 12' and 16' at no additional charge, so you can get the best lengths for your project without paying extra. For most of the country, Ipé will have a 10-20% upcharge for 12', 16' and 20' lengths, and many retailers will steer you towards shorter or random lengths to keep your cost down. For exact numbers you can consult your local lumberyard.

Winner: Kebony for price consistency

The Verdict

It's time to rethink whether you REALLY need Ipé on your next project, because there is a clear-cut alternative: Kebony.

Kebony vs. Thermally-Modified

In the world of modified woods, there are many different versions. But not all modification processes are created equal, so how do you tell the difference? Here are 5 primary categories to help you distinguish between Kebony and thermally-modified wood products.

Modification Process

Kebony uses a patented and proprietary modification process called furfurylation. Furfurylation uses a bio based liquid called furfuryl alcohol derived from agricultural plant waste. Furfuryl alcohol is injected into the sapwood cells and when combined with heat, permanently bonds together, resulting in a softwood being permanently transformed into the characteristics of a hardwood. Even though chemicals are used, the product is non-toxic both during and at the end of service. Kebony comes with a 30-yr warranty.

Thermal modification of wood is a chemical-free process where wood is heated in a kiln to temperatures between 180°C and 230°C. This also results in a permanent change of the wood cells creating improved durability and performance. Thermal modification is very common, many companies use a variation of this science. Most thermally-modified woods come with a 25-yr warranty at the most.

Winner: Since Kebony's process is thickening wood cells while thermal modification thins wood cell walls, increasing brittleness, the advantage goes to Kebony

Durability

Kebony contains a permanently swollen and stable cell wall providing a long life span and a wood more similar in performance to tropical hardwoods. The furfurylation process produces resistance to microbial decay, increased dimensional stability, hardness, stiffness and a controlled moisture content. For these reasons, Kebony offers a 30-year warranty on Kebony products.

Thermally-modified woods bake out the wood sugars that are a food source to insects while controlling the wood's moisture content in order to produce a more stable product than the original species. Because of the removal of substances from the wood cells, thermally-modified woods are less desirable for heavy traffic areas like boardwalks or commercial decks. As a decking or site furnishing, it has the drawback of the cell walls being reduced in thickness and susceptible to cell collapse and it can be prone to wear in high foot traffic areas.

Winner: Kebony for enhanced durability as a decking product

Maintenance

Both products weather to a nice silver patina and do not require maintenance other than normal cleaning. Kebony wood will have a 30 year warranty where most thermally-modified pines will not

contain a warranty. Some thermally modified hardwoods have a warranty of 25 years depending on the manufacturer and wood species.

With both product types being natural wood, they can be cleaned with soap and water or with some light pressure washing. Either product can also hold stain or paint based on manufacturer specifications.

Winner: Tie, with Kebony having a slight edge because of a longer warranty

Environmental Impact

Kebony is the ultimate alternative to the tropical hardwoods. Kebony uses FSC®-certified fast growth trees which only take 30 years to mature and gives them a total life cycle that will outlive many tropical hardwoods. The trees come from sustainably managed forests and are all FSC®-certified. In contrast, Ipé and other tropical hardwoods have a 100-yr maturity rate and are retrieved through rainforest deforestation or illegal logging practices. The Kebony modification process is also clean and non-toxic.

Thermal modification is practiced with a variety of wood species depending on the manufacturer, from non-FSC®-certified Pine and hardwoods like Ash. Pine is a fast-growth softwood, while Ash tends to have a longer growth cycle and less progressive reforestation plan, increasing the overall environmental impact. Slower growth trees work better for thermal modification since the wood cell walls are being thinned during the modification process.

Transportation and shipping is another thing to consider in terms of environmental impact. Kebony is produced in Norway and Belgium, thermally-modified products are produced in both the USA and internationally. A common misconception is shipping internationally significantly increases the carbon footprint of a product, but due to the a shipping vessels massive capacity shipping over water ends up being twice as fuel-efficient as a rail car and almost 10 times more efficient than semi-trucks.

Winner: Both are significantly more sustainable than tropical hardwoods, but since Kebony can utilize the fastest growing trees in the best climates in the world they have a definitive edge over thermal modification

Value

Value is typically dependent on use and goals of the project. The cost difference between Kebony and similar thermally-modified products vary greatly between manufacturers and based on region. Another factor that should be considered is total cost of ownership. If a project is designed to be long-lasting then you want to use a product designed to last as long as the other materials being utilized.

Winner: It depends on the project

Conclusion

We can't speak for all thermally-modified products, but typically furfurylated wood like Kebony creates a more durable product than thermal modification when using the same species and dimensions. We encourage you to do your own research and choose the product that best suits your specific needs.



DE VILLA TEGERNSEE

Tegernsee, Germany

Product: Kebony Clear Cladding & Decking

Photography: René Sievert



How to Buy

Whether you order through your local lumberyard or buy direct, Kebony products are available anywhere in the United States & Canada from our Regional Distribution Centers (RDC) and trusted partners.

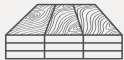
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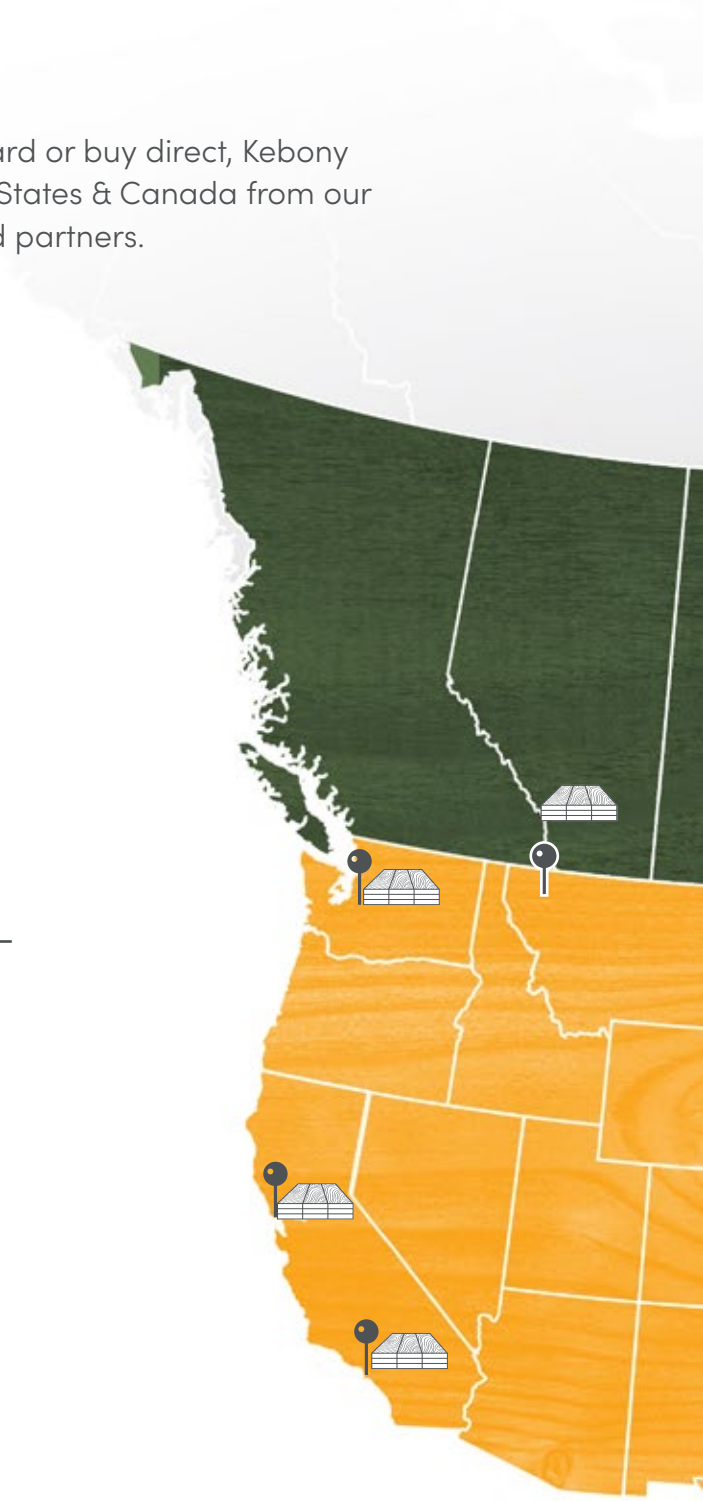
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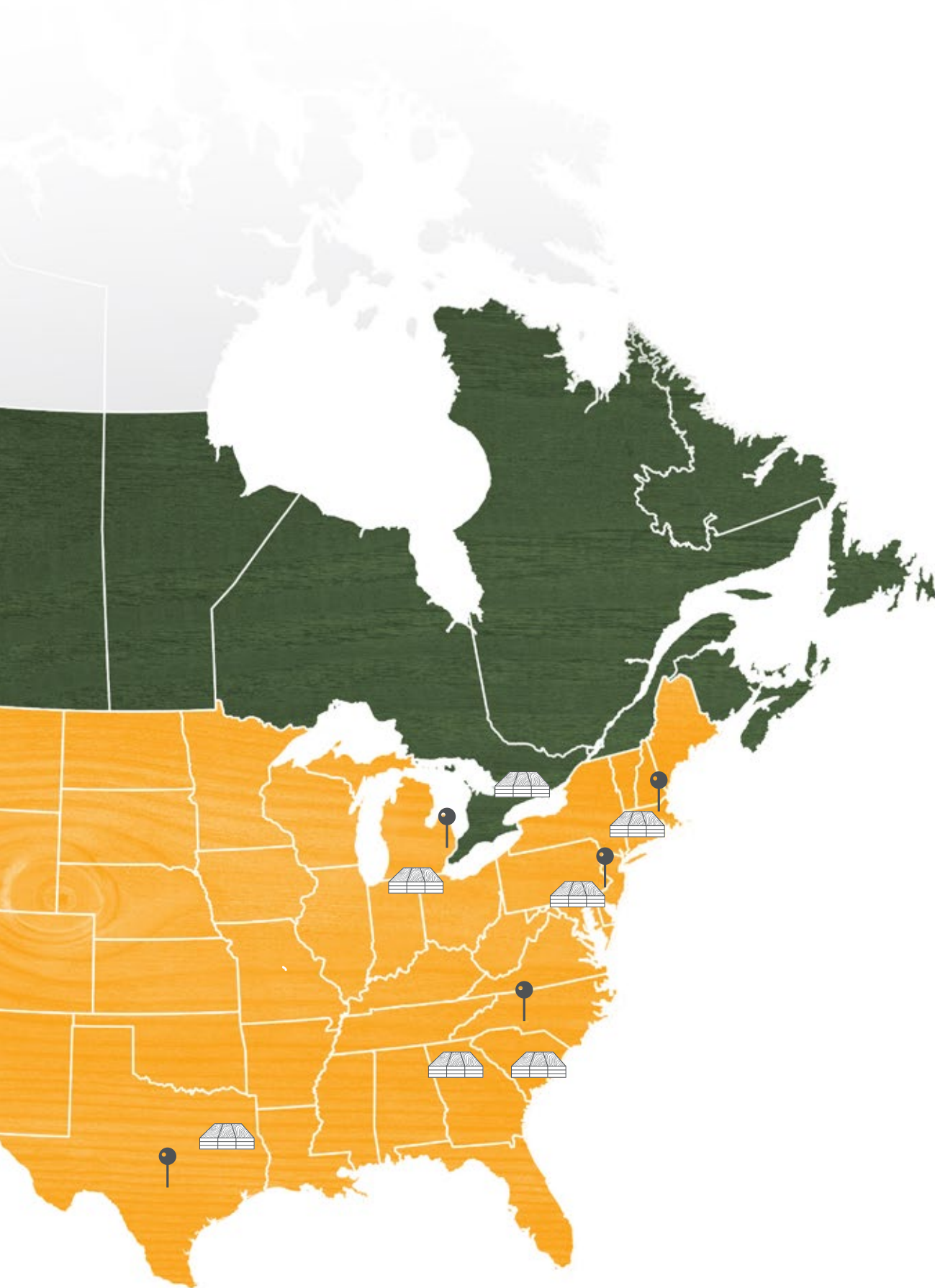
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