
BALSA WOOD
(Refer also to Auszac SDS for Wood Dust)

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

Product Name	Balsa Wood (<i>Ochroma lagopus</i> , <i>O. pyramidale</i>)
Article Number	None allocated
Other Names	Balsa
Product Use	Structural core material, model making, craft items, surfboards.
Company Name	Auszac Pty Ltd
Address	11 Emanuel Court Melrose Park South Australia 5039 Australia
Telephone Number	+61 8 8276 4122
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2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Balsa is classified as **NON HAZARDOUS** according to the criteria of Safe Work Australia.
Balsa is classified as **NOT DANGEROUS** according to the Australian Dangerous Goods Code.

Risk Phrases:

- R36 Irritating to eyes.
- R38 Irritating to skin.
- R43 May cause sensitisation by skin contact.

Safety Phrases:

- S16 Keep away from sources of ignition.
- S22 Do not breathe dust.
- S25 Avoid contact with eyes
- S39 Wear eye / face protection.

3. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS
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Ingredient (common name)	Balsa Wood
CAS Number	None allocated
Proportion of Ingredients	100%

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

- Inhalation** Balsa Wood in its solid state does not present an inhalation risk.
- Ingestion** Balsa Wood in its solid state does not present an ingestion risk.
- Skin** Balsa Wood can be an irritant to the skin. Wash skin with soap and water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
- Eyes** Rubbing the eyes after handling Balsa Wood may cause eye irritation. Irrigate eyes with water, lifting lower and upper eyelids. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

- Balsa Wood is a combustible, fast burning material**
- Suitable Extinguishing Media** Smother flames with water, dry chemical, or CO₂. Balsa will smoulder unless fully extinguished.
- Precautions for Fire Fighters** Wood dust is a strong to severe explosion hazard if a dust “cloud” contacts an ignition source. Wear protective clothing and self contained breathing apparatus.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Methods for Containment and Cleanup

There are no specific containment or cleanup measures required for Balsa Wood in its solid state. Any resultant dust should be wet-swept or vacuumed. Face mask protection is recommended to avoid inhaling dust.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

- Storage** Store in a dry place.
- Handling** Gloves are recommended when handling rough-sawn Balsa Wood; otherwise, no special handling requirements.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Exposure Standard

- (Safe Work Australia)** ES-TWA: No known limits
ES-STEL: No known limits

Engineering Controls Ensure adequate ventilation and/or dust extraction when working with balsa wood and when dust is created.

Personal Protection

Respiratory Protection Not required when handling Balsa Wood that is not being processed. Wear a face mask when working with balsa wood and where dust is created.

Body Protection	Clothing that covers all limbs is recommended to avoid possible skin irritation. Clean skin thoroughly after work.
Eye protection	Wear safety glasses when working with balsa wood.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance	Balsa is classified as a hardwood. It is a white to light brown coloured wood. The grain of the wood is soft to the touch.
Odour	None
Vapour Pressure	Not applicable
Density at 20 °C	60 - 250kg/m ³
Freezing / Melting point	Not applicable
pH	Not applicable
Solubility	Insoluble
Specific Gravity	0.05 to 0.25
Flash Point	No Information available
Flammable Limits	No LEL / HEL limits determined
Ignition Temperature	>200 °C

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Chemical Stability	Stable
Hazardous Decomposition Products	Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, organic acids, traces of hydrocarbons.
Hazardous Reactions	None known Wood dust may pose a strong to severe explosion hazard if a cloud of wood dust comes into contact with an ignition source.
Incompatible Materials	Strong oxidizers may cause wood to ignite.
Conditions to Avoid	Keep away from flame, heat and other sources of ignition.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Toxicity Studies	No information available; generally considered to be non-toxic
Routes of Exposure	Inhalation, Ingestion, Eyes, Skin
Health Effects from Likely Routes of Exposure	<u>Inhalation</u> : No information available. Unlikely to occur. <u>Ingestion</u> : No information available. Unlikely to occur.

Eyes: Contact with eyes (usually caused by rubbing eyes with hands) may cause dryness, irritation, redness, and tearing.

Skin: May irritate skin.

Medical Conditions Generally Aggravated by Exposure None known for Balsa Wood that is not subjected to processing.

Effects of Overexposure No information available. Unlikely to occur.

Carcinogenicity No information available. Unlikely to occur through general handling of Balsa Wood.

Refer to Auszac SDS for Wood Dust for carcinogenicity information.

Birth Defect Information No information available.

Reproduction information No information available.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Ecotoxicity Not toxic to the environment.
Persistence / Degradability Natural material, biodegradable.
Mobility No information available

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Disposal methods and Containers Dispose of at designated landfill or incinerate. No special containerisation required.
Special precautions for landfill or incineration Requires no special handling or precautions.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Not classified as dangerous by the Australian Dangerous Goods Code. Unless required by other regulations, there are no special transport requirements.

UN Number Not allocated
Proper Shipping Name Balsa Wood
Dangerous Goods Class Not Applicable
Hazchem Code Not Applicable
Packing Group Not Applicable
Special Precautions None

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

None known. Balsa Wood is not a CITES listed wood.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

This Revision of SDS: Rev 1 (21-Feb-2013)
Prepared by: Auszac Pty Ltd www.auszac.com.au

Abbreviations Used:

SDS Safety Data Sheet (formerly Material Safety Data Sheet)
ES-STEL Exposure standard - short term exposure limit
ES-TWA Exposure standard - time weighted average
LEL Lower Explosive Limit
UEL Upper Explosive Limit

17. EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Auszac Pty Ltd +61 8 8276 4122
Police, Fire, Ambulance 000 (within Australia)
Poisons Information Centre 13 11 26 (within Australia)

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