

Products Made From Wood

Terry Conners
Cooperative Extension Service
Department of Forestry
University of Kentucky
tconners@uky.edu

Original list created from a number of other lists, with additions
Corrections and Additions will be welcomed!

Solid Wood Products

Lumber and plywood to build new homes	Stair rails
Doors	End tables
Window frames and sills	Coffee tables
Flooring	Beds
Handrails	Bookcases
Stairs	Desks
I-joists	Kitchen cabinets
LVL (laminated veneer lumber)	Picture frames
Parallel strand lumber	Nightstands
Finger-jointed lumber	Bureaus
Machine stress-rated lumber	Fireplace mantels
Coat racks	Sculptures and carvings
iPhone cases	Landscape timbers
Furniture	Highway guard rails
Dining room tables and chairs	Snowshoes
Upholstered furniture frames	Toothpicks
Rocking chairs	Match sticks
Stools	Chopsticks
	Shutters
	Baseball bats
	Canoe paddles and oars

Musical instruments:

Guitars
Pianos
Organs and organ pedals
Hammer dulcimers
Mountain dulcimers
Oboes
Bagpipes
Ukuleles
Banjos
Clarinets
Flutes/Fifes
Mandolins
String bass
Violins, violas
Violin bows
Cellos
Bassoons
Drums
Drum Sticks
Tambourines
Wood blocks
Wooden spoons
Speaker cabinets
Amplifier cabinets
Metronomes
Xylophones
Harmonicas
Stage flooring
Backyard weathervanes
Caskets
Sandboxes and Backyard play sets
Charcoal
Tool handles
Wooden tools
 Biltmore sticks
 Log scale sticks
 Toolboxes
 Mallets
 Marking/mortise gauge

Toilet plungers
Medicine cabinets
Parallel bars
Vineyard stakes
Toys such as wooden blocks
Rulers
Birdhouses
Fencing, fence posts and rails
Firewood
Fishing boats
Tall ships
Rowboats
Ladders
Hockey sticks
Dog houses
Pallets
Particleboard
Medium density fiberboard (MDF)
 (used in kitchen cabinets and
 furniture panels, for example)
Hardboard
Garage doors
Gazebos
Hot tubs and spas
Lath
Trellises
Kitchen utensils
Pencils
Ping Pong paddles
Golf tees
Animal bedding
Railroad ties
Seesaws
Model airplanes
Coffins
Brush handles
Cable reels
Canes
Cedar chests
Cedar closet lining

Activated charcoal
Church pews and altars
Closet rods
Barrels
Crutches
Docks
Decks
Kitchen cabinets
Ferryboats
Gazebos
Grandfather clocks
Truck and trailer flooring
Mouldings and baseboards
Paneling
Picnic tables
Pilings for building construction
Popsicle sticks
Porch swings
Produce crates and boxes
Propeller shaft bearings for ships
Rocking horses
Shingles
House siding
Putty-type of wood filler
Tongue depressors
Totem poles
Sleds
Salad bowls and serving ware
Telephone poles
Wheelbarrow handles
Wooden nickels
Pegboard
Ship masts and yardarms
Toilet seats
Piano keys (wooden)
Pinewood Derby cars
Clothespins
Pool tables
Fireplace mantles
Display cases

Duck decoys
Beer clarifier
Humidors
Shoe soles and heels
Easels
Kite struts
Christmas trees
Windmills
Scythes
Corn cribs
Baker's peels
Barns
Home greenhouses
Frying pan and pot handles
Cider presses
Light switch covers
Award plaques
Dollhouses
Wooden steering wheels
Bar tops
Clipboards
Cooling towers
Curtain rods
Boomerangs
Gavels
Pulpits and podiums
Buttons
Stadium seating
Cutting boards
Broom handles
Stirrups
Saunas
Surveyor stakes
Yardsticks
Game pieces
Croquet sets
Mousetraps
Pipes
Rolling pins
Knife handles

Children's puzzles
Work benches
Toboggans
Bookcases
Park benches
Gun racks and cabinets
Billboards
Snow fences
Trellises
Tobacco sticks
Garden stakes and poles
Parallel bars
Log houses
Bowling alley lanes
Bowling pins
Railroad crossing gates
Rural bridges
Tent poles
Hurdles
Lobster pots and floats
Wooden matches
Parts of snowboards, skis and
skateboards
Ventriloquist dummies
Name tags
Flagpoles (for smaller flags)
Cribs
Police batons
Planters
Dowels
Scaffold planks
Concrete forms
Glu-lam beams (used to create
long open spaces, as in
churches)
Excelsior
Veneer
Bushel baskets
Pants hangers
Kitchen counters

Woodcut artwork
Merry-go-Round horses
Birdhouses
Snowshoes
Woodworking clamps
Spinning wheels
Baskets
Novelties such as Nutcrackers
Checker sets
Jewelry boxes
Foundry patterns
Crates
Garage doors
Theatre scenery
Gunstocks
Beehives
Butcher blocks
Organ pipes
Crucifixes
Drafting tables
Ballot boxes
Yo-yos
Dice
Silverware chests
Venetian blinds
Billiard cue sticks
Fuel for meat smokers
Spices and flavorings from woody
plants:
Allspice
Annatto
Bay leaves
Cinnamon
Cloves
Filé (Sassafras leaves, used
to thicken gumbos)
Juniper berries (gin
flavoring)
Mace
Nutmeg

Orange blossoms (flavored water)	Doll houses
Chips for smoking meat	Test tube racks
Sassafras oil is used as a soap perfume	Wine racks
Logs provide nutrients for shiitake mushrooms	Handrails
Cutting boards	Stake-body truck sides
Model airplanes	Gerbil chew sticks (balsa wood)
“Biscuits” for wood joining	

Products that Used to be Made From Wood

(Some of these may still be made from wood for specialty products.)

Water pipes	Street paving blocks
Bocce balls	Rocking horses
Commemorative medallions	Fun house barrels
Tennis rackets	Fishing lures
Car dashboards	Storage battery separators (hard rubber)
Golf clubs	Water tanks
Conestoga wagons	Wardrobes/armoires
Clocks and clock gears	Model “T” coil boxes
Waterwheels	Automobile chassis
Printing press type	Ironing boards
Printing presses	Treenails
Deckle boxes (frames used to make paper by hand)	Post and beam timber framing
Paper presses (to squeeze the water out of handmade paper)	Cabinets for Analytical balances
Woodworking planes	Shoe lasts
Cigar store Indians	Radio, television and phonograph/stereo cabinets
Weaving shuttles and bobbins	Butter churns
Wooden shoes	Harpsichords
Bows and arrows	Railroad cars
Cradles	Aircraft propellers and airframes
Wooden wheels for automobiles and wagons	Minesweeper boats, PT boats
Pull toys	Silos
Sextants	Fermentation vats
	Cigar boxes

Racing shells (one to eight-man rowed boats)
Wringers for washing machines
Telephones
Wood creosote used to be used as a laxative, a disinfectant and a cough treatment (rarely used nowadays).
Woodworking tools
 Planes
 Carpenter levels
 Carpenter rules
Gear shift knobs
Butter molds
Slide rules
Phonographs
Bicycles
Traveler's writing desks
Cigar molds
Artist's pallets
Washboards
Skis
Water well structures
Water pump enclosures
Wheel chairs
Candlesticks
Warships
Wardrobe trunks
Maple syrup buckets
Abacus
Pulleys
Gallows
Milking stools
Insulator pins
Plates and bowls
Artificial limbs
Sled runners
Iceboxes and refrigerators
Gutters

Spruce gum was used for chewing gum
Sassafras tea
Canoes (birch bark canoes had a wooden frame, also wood-canvas canoes)
Automobile tires (used rayon as reinforcing cord)
Shoe pegs (used to fasten shoe soles to the leather uppers)
Dragon's blood (from fruit of Asian tree) was used in the manufacture of varnishes and lacquers
Dyestuffs (prior to invention of synthetic dyes)
Canada balsam (tree resin) was used to make microscope slides
Quinine came from the bark of the Cinchona tree
Willow bark provided the original source of aspirin-like compounds
Cork used to be the gasket material lining bottle caps
Rubber used to be used to waterproof raincoats
Molded wooden figurines
Typewriter keys (Celluloid)
Red elm inner bark used to be steeped in water to obtain a remedy for sore throats
Hickory was a part of the Wright brothers' airplanes
Cylinder phonograph records used to be made from Carnauba wax because it is so hard

Tool handles were made from celluloid as recently as World War II.

Piano keys were once made from celluloid as an ivory substitute.

Things Made from Wood that Formerly Were Made from Something Else

Paper (used to be made from cotton and linen rags)

Non-Wood/Non-Paper Products

Shade!

Nuts

- Cola nuts (Coca-Cola etc.)
- Almonds
- Brazil nuts
- Cashews
- Hazelnuts
- Pistachios
- Walnuts
- Pecans
- Hickory nuts
- Chestnuts
- Pine nuts
- Acorns (decorative uses)

Fruits

- Apples
- Avocadoes
- Coffee
- Peaches
- Oranges
- Lemons

- Limes
- Bananas
- Pears
- Tangerines
- Coconuts
- Dates
- Grapefruit
- Olives and olive oil
- Plums
- Figs

Fruit juices

Carob (a cocoa substitute)

Cider

Mistletoe (grows as a symbiant on trees)

Eucalyptus leaves (floral component, also used for fragrance)

Carnauba wax (from the leaves of the carnauba palm tree grown in Brazil). Used in:

- Shoe polish
- Lipsticks
- Automotive waxes
- Furniture polish
- Applied to produce to make it look appealing in supermarkets.

Products from Wood Sap or Extractives:

- Citrus cleaners (oils)
- Lime scent for aftershave
- Sandalwood fragrance for soap and incense
- Maple syrup
- Rubber
- Rubber products
- Golf balls
- Tires

Marine and underwater
 cable insulation
 Adhesives
 Combs (hard rubber)
 Latex gloves and other
 barrier-type
 medical products
 Rubber belts
 Rubber hoses
 Gaskets
 Shoe soles
 Rubber boots
 Rubber balls
 Turpentine (most of it
 comes from wood
 pulping operations)
 Rosin
 Pine needle extract (an anti-
 inflammatory)
 Rosewood oil (various
 medicinal uses)
 Taxol (anti-cancer drug)
 Frankincense
 Myrrh
 Tea tree oil (antibiotic and
 antifungal oil)
 Benzoin gum
 Gum Arabic
 Corks (the primary use for cork:
 ~17 billion sold each year,
 compared to 400 million for
 plastic stoppers (2001
 statistics))
 Other cork products
 Coasters
 Flooring
 Dartboards
 Wall and ceiling tiles
 Sanding blocks
 Corkboards

Expansion joint filler
 Insulation corkboard
 Fishing buoys and floats
 Cork washers
 Hot pads
 Musical instrument parts
 (e.g., stoppers for organ
 pipes)
 Laboratory rings for
 glassware
 Bathmats (made of
 granulated cork)
 “Peas” for whistles
 Cricket balls
 Corks for pop guns
 Foosball (table football)
 balls
 Hockey balls
 Baseballs (centers)
 Facings for some ping pong
 paddles
 Cork shoe soles
 Roofing

**Products that Used to be
 Made From Cork**

*(Some of these may still be made
 as specialty products.)*

Bottle cap gaskets for carbonated
 beverages
 Life jackets (until 1857 – now
 mostly polystyrene)
 Life preservers (polystyrene now)
 Fishing rod handles (now mostly
 Hypalon®)
 Sheet insulation (*e.g.*, for
 refrigerators)

Rocket nosecones (a cork-ceramic composite)

Paper and Fluff Products

Computer and copy paper
Books and book paper
Book marks
Envelopes
Checkbooks
Cook books
Recipe cards
Bulk mail
Bills
Toll booth tickets
Instruction manuals
Packaging cards for blister-packed products
Calendars
Diplomas and Certificates
Report cards
Lamp shades
Book covers
Posters
Identification badges
Newsletters
Salt boxes
Moving boxes
Shipping boxes
Sugar and flour bags
Can labels (except for tomato cans for some unknown reason!)
Bottle and jar labels
Cereal boxes
Shelf labels in grocery stores
Adhesive-backed labels
Receipts
Menus
Poster board

Baking cups
Coupons
US currency is *not* made from wood pulp – it's made from cotton and flax fibers
Coffee filters
Facial and bath tissue
Packaging for facial and bath tissue (the boxes and wrappers)
Napkins
Sanitary and surgical absorbent products
Disposable diapers
Kites
Movie tickets
Classroom handouts and tests
Catalogs
Game boards
Masking tape
Crepe paper
Birthday and Christmas wrapping paper
Stickers
Coloring books
Flashlight battery labels
Paper dolls
Baseball cards
Tracing paper
Election ballots
Milk cartons
Egg cartons
Postage stamps
Paper towels
Playing cards
Building insulation, loose and in panel form
Grocery bags
Cat litter (from recycled paper, non-clay types)

Paper plates
Paper cups
File folders
Post-It Notes® (Made in Kentucky!)
CD labels
DVD and VCR tape packaging
Magazines
Magazine card inserts
Postcards
Maps
Fast food packaging
Frozen food boxes
Construction paper
Kraft paper (wrapping paper)
Multi-wall sacks for birdseed and pet foods
Price tags
Sandpaper
Seed starter blocks
Loudspeaker cones
Origami paper
Tea bags are usually *not* made from wood pulp – they are mostly made from abaca, also known as Manila hemp
Tea bag *tags* and *wrappers* are made of wood-based paper
Cigarette papers and vacuum cleaner bags are made from hemp or flax fiber!
Bible paper
Wallpaper
Tubes for bathroom tissue, paper towels, wrapping paper
Artificial snow (paper snow)
Wax paper
Confetti
Admixture with sprayed-on grass seed

Food additive (non-digestible cellulose dietary fiber). Used in diet drink products, food texture enhancer. (In the late 1970s, a “diet bread” listed cellulose fiber from wood as one of its ingredients.)
Butcher paper
Musical instrument cases (“cardboard” type, as for guitars)
Phone books
Photographs
Newspapers
Tickets
Business cards
Roofing felt
Ice cream containers
Pizza boxes
Disposable tablecloths
Retail software boxes
Corrugated cartons
Ceiling tiles
Absorbent socks for oil spills
Absorbent liners for supermarket meat trays
Stationery and notebook paper
NCR (no carbon required) paper
Tax forms
Marriage licenses, birth and death certificates and other civil documents
Racing forms
Programs for sporting events
Fiber filler for plastics:
Tool handles
Football helmets
Buttons
Eyeglass frames
Ball point pens

Electronics cases (televisions,
calculators, computers)
Loudspeakers
Automobile parts (*e.g.*, door
panels)
Packaging
Trays
Thermoformed products like
gun cases
Marine/Trailer flooring
Wood-plastic composite
lumber:
 Garden benches
 Picnic tables
 Planters
 Fencing
 Decking
Signs
Parking stops for parking lots
Spare tire covers
Melamine paper-faced board

Things that Formerly Were Made from Wood-based Paper

Oil cans
Candy bar wrappers
Grocery bags (some still are made
from paper!)
Library catalog cards (supplanted
by electronic computer files)
Drinking straws
Shotgun cartridges
Carbon paper (mostly obsolete
product)

Bumper stickers (now made out of
vinyl except for the peel-off
paper on the backside)
Computer punch cards (now also
entirely electronic!)

Products Made from Wood- Derived Chemicals

(Processed products, not oils or
latex, etc. Some cellulose products
may derive from other cellulose
sources such as cotton linters,
depending on economics and
manufacturer.)

Textiles (Rayon, Tencel™)
Cellulose acetate (wrapping and
photographic film)
Cellulose nitrate (former
composition of movie film,
except that it was very
flammable and unstable with
age)
Celluloid (rarely produced
nowadays, except for guitar
picks and pick guards, fountain
pens, accordion cases and
ping-pong balls. Formerly used
for costume jewelry, clocks,
etc.)
Cellulose acetate and cellulose
nitrate are both used in
adhesives and lacquers.
CMC (carboxymethyl cellulose) is
used as a food thickener and
texturizer for products such as
ketchup and ice cream
(depending on manufacturer);

also used to stabilize oil well drilling muds.
Cellulose-based pill fillers
Cellophane (wrapping material, also used for Easter basket grass!)
Toothpaste additives (*e.g.*, cellulose gum)
“Plastic” twine
Hardhats and sports helmets
Cigarette filters (cellulose acetate fibers)
Cellulose industrial filters
Sausage casings
Cellulose sponges
Artificial vanilla flavoring (by-product of Kraft process for pulping wood)
Cleaning compounds
Chewing gum is a combination of natural rubber (especially chicle, from the Sapodilla trees from Central and South America) with some synthetic latexes to extend the natural latex supply. Other wood chemicals such as rosin esters and terpenes are also common ingredients.
Additive to unfired ceramics to give them strength
Fungicides
Hair spray
Cosmetics – including thickeners such as methyl cellulose and methyl hydroxy ethyl cellulose
Methanol (used in colognes, solvents)
Torula yeast (a food supplement) is grown on wood sugars and

wood mineral nutrients leftover from pulping operations. This is used in baby foods, imitation bacon, cereals, baked goods, etc.
Tannin (used in natural tanning process, less common than formerly)
Carnauba wax is commonly used as a pill coating.
Liquid Smoke®
Linoleum (oxidized linseed oil mixed with pine resin and wood flour)
Acetic acid (produced by distillation of wood)
Biofuels from wood distillation
Liquid nail polish
Shaving cream (tea tree oil, camphor, etc., varies by manufacturer)
Suntan lotion (*e.g.*, almond oil (emollient); clove bud oil (scent); cocoa butter (emollient))
Ink (incorporate tall oil rosins from hard pines)
Tall oil fatty acids and derivatives are used as:
PVC stabilizers
Synthetic lubricants
Polyamides
Corrosion inhibitors
Soaps
Detergents
Emulsifiers
Rubber processing additives
Asphalt additives
Concrete additives
Epoxy additives

Plasticizers
Metalworking chemicals
Oil field chemicals
Rosin-based adhesive products

Also see the list of products from
Extractives, above

To grow a pound of wood, a tree uses 1.47 pounds of carbon dioxide and gives off 1.07 pounds of oxygen.

The following information is from the website of the Temperate Forest Foundation {<http://www.forestinfo.org/Discover/facts.htm#Recycling>}:

- In 1995, some 1.6 billion seedlings were planted in the U.S. - more than 5 new trees a year for every American. Millions of additional trees were naturally reforested.
- Private owners account for 59% of the nation's 490 million acres of commercial forestland; government owns 27%; and the forest industry owns 14%.
- Each person in the United States consumes approximately 675 pounds of paper a year.
- On the average, everyone uses the equivalent of a tree, 18 inches in diameter - 100 foot tall, every year. That's 80 cubic feet!

The United States is a wood-rich country; people in the United States (on average) use about three times as much wood each day as people in the rest of the world. One of the most common uses for wood around the world is for fuel!

And finally, a surprise for (almost) all Kentuckians:

3M Corporation's popular product, Post-It Notes, are manufactured exclusively in Cynthiana (Harrison County), Kentucky!