



Veneer Common Name: English Sycamore

Species: *Acer pseudoplatanus*

Also known as: English Harewood

Source: England

Availability: Rare **Value:** Expensive



Description: English Sycamore, many times found with a distinctive heavy figure, is a premium grade wood used for decorative surfaces. The figure is most dramatic when logs are quarter sliced or plain sliced. The result is a dramatic fiddleback, quilted or block mottle character, which when carefully matched, displays luminescent textures and patterns. A very fine grain and dense structure allows this wood to take very high finishes to a lustrous and luminous appearance. On rare occasions, a burl may develop (see above).

Uses: Decorative veneer suitable for surfaces of fine furniture, doors, casework, jewelry boxes, music boxes, etc. Coveted by fine woodworkers for centuries, this dramatic material can be manipulated to create outstanding patterns and rich character.

Slicing Specifics: Generally, when a section of the tree is identified (graded) to contain a decorative figure, the logs are cut into quartered or half log sections, lengthwise. The quarter or half log sections are then cut on a slicer, on an angle perpendicular to the outside of the log. Slicing on this angle cuts through medullary rays (grain structure ribbons running perpendicular to annular growth rings) exposing the complex figure.



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