

A. S. Potter Musical Instruments

Tonewood Options (Guitar) 2020/21

All prices given are guides and subject to change, pricing will be confirmed upon quotation.

Back and Sides

Grown in the New Forest

Ask for availability, supplies strictly limited.

Species vary, but walnut, cherry, ash and maple and catalpa are often available for a small supplement (normally about +£50) to cover costs involved with re-sawing.

Extremely well figured spalted beech (New Forest or from Mottisfont Abbey, Romsey) +£100 / +£200

UK and European

	Standard	Select
UK/European walnut	Inc.	+£100
UK/European maple or sycamore	Inc.	High figure +£150
UK cherry	Inc.	+£75
UK yew	+£50	+£150
European pear	+£75	Flamed +£150
Spanish cypress	+£75	+£175

Tropical

FSC African mahogany	Inc. (back, sides and top +£35)
FSC Ovangkol	+£75 +£150
FSC Guatemalan Mahogany	+£100 (Back, Sides and top +£150)
Purpleheart	+£125
Zebrano	+£125

Special

The 'special' options represent particularly rare and/or beautiful options. All the sets are carefully selected and are highly subject to availability – if I can't get a set that I consider 'special' I won't buy it.

Reclaimed old growth mahogany – normally reclaimed from antique furniture this is mahogany of a quality that you simply can't go out and buy from a sawmill – most of it has been seasoning in a bookcase or table for over a century. Not as flashy as some of the other woods I can offer but tonally second to none – perfect for that 'vintage' look and sound. From +£200

FSC Reclaimed Indian Rosewood – A rare chance to find some real rosewood. Stunning and ethical, great for that golden age look and tone. Unfortunately, as this timber is being reclaimed largely from former government buildings in India the supply is somewhat unpredictable. From +£250

Birdseye figure maple	+£375
High figure flamed eucalyptus	+£400
Cocobolo	+£475
Koa	+£525
Ziricote, African or macassar ebony	+£650

A. S. Potter Musical Instruments

Soundboards.

Grown in the New Forest

I have a very (very) small selection of Yew soundboards taken from a particularly large and ancient tree felled within the forest boundaries. The wood is of excellent quality for soundboards and is uncommonly beautiful. Pair with a New Forest walnut back and sides set for a stunning guitar – from +£250

I also have New forest grown macrocarpa (a cypress –type timber) soundboards and cedar of Lebanon/Atlas cedar soundboards from +£100

Although not strictly New Forest I also have a number of western red cedar soundboards from a tree that grew in Southampton – I can provide the postcode for the location(!) – that are some of the best UK grown soundboards I've seen – From +£100

Other

Ask to have a look through my current selection to pick out your soundboard.

	Standard	Select
European Spruce	Inc.	+£150
Sitka or Engleman Spruce	+£50	+£150
Western Red Cedar	Inc.	+£100
Yellow Cedar	+£100	+£200

(note August 2020 – I have some genuinely stunningly high quality yellow cedar in at the moment, I was very very lucky to get it, it's worth asking about)

Hardwood top (same as back and sides) – prices vary (but are never more than the cost of the back and sides, and frequently are quite a bit less).

Necks

	Standard	Select
FSC African mahogany	Inc.	
European maple or sycamore	+£50	High flame +£125
UK walnut	+£50	+£80
UK cherry	+£50	+£80
European beech	+£50	
FSC Cedrella (usually Honduran)	+£50	+£125
Exotic mahogany (south or central America)		+£125

Grown in the New Forest maple, walnut, cherry, ash and beech may be available at the costs listed above, subject to availability.

Binding

All my instruments come with a choice of UK holly (cream white) or walnut (dark brown) binding, or binding to match the back and sides included as standard.

Grown in the New Forest maple, walnut or other timbers may be available, subject to availability, at no extra cost.

A. S. Potter Musical Instruments

Exotic binding in a choice of flamed maple, ebony, reclaimed old growth mahogany or purpleheart is available at +£100

Purfling is available in a range of styles including plain black, plain white, black/white/black narrow or bold, black/pear/black narrow or bold and 1mm solid lines of ebony or boxwood, all included as standard. Various herringbone or patterned purfling is available at costs depending on design (not usually more than +£25 a guitar.) For abalone or mother of pearl purfling please enquire.

Fretboards, Bridges and Headplates.

Fretboards and bridges are supplied in Cameroon ebony as standard.

Native timbers available are UK pear, plum, holly (white or stained), treated walnut and elm (depending on availability), generally all available at no extra cost.

I also have currently got some extremely nice alternatives, including treated Spanish grown eucalyptus (a very fine sustainable rosewood alternative) and FSC certified pau ferro with a particularly beautiful grain.

I have some beautiful Grown in the New Forest laburnum currently available in fairly large quantities, and may have other species depending on availability.

Resin stabilised New Forest burr fretboards available, priced individually on request.

Select Ziricote, Cocobolo and variegated or flamed ebony fretboards and bridges are available at +£100 (As of this update in August of 2020 I have a very limited number of highly figured FSC certified Cameroon ebony fretboards that are as beautiful as any I have ever seen – honestly, ask to have a look at them).

Bridges are available to match the fretboards as standard, but I also stock some very special rosewoods that can be paired with a different fretboard for their tonal characteristics. Please enquire.

The headplate is as standard the same material as the back and sides of the guitar, or can be the same material as the fretboard and bridge for +£15.

Special headplates such as highly figured exotic or domestic burrs, or custom designs using more than one wood are priced individually on request.

The list given above, although large, is by no means exhaustive. Should you particularly be interested in a timber that is not listed then please ask; the chances are I will be able to source it.

Alex's wood store specials.

I am something of a tonewood magpie, frequently buying materials that catch my eye to see how they look and how they work. As a result I usually have a small selection of more unusual or one-off materials available. It is impractical to list these on the website but please ask me for a list of specials, they can make a highly unique and individual instrument and will always represent great value.