



# SAFETY DATA SHEET (SDS) WOOD AND WOOD DUST (UNTREATED) INCLUDING LUMBER

## 1. Identification

Product Name: Wood and Wood Dust (without chemical treatments) including Untreated Lumber, (all species and grades), Logs, Chips, and Sawdust

Synonyms: None

Recommended Uses: Building materials, wood pulp raw material, fuel, landscaping

Manufacturer's Name: Wood dust is by-product produced during mechanical or abrasive activities (e.g. cutting, sawing, drilling, sanding) and is not generated for specific use Interfor



Address: 1600 – 4720 Kingsway  
Burnaby, BC V5H 4N2  
Canada

Emergency Telephone No.: 604-422-3400

## 2. Hazard Identification


Signal Word: **Danger**

Note: Wood dust may become hazardous while being transported or handled by downstream users. Products not containing wood dust are not hazardous as shipped but may become hazardous as the result of downstream activities (e.g. cutting, sanding) which creates small particles.

Classification:	Hazard Statement(s):	Pictograms:
Combustible Dust	May form combustible dust concentrations in air.	None
Irritation	May cause skin irritation. May cause respiratory irritation. May cause eye irritation.	
Sensitization	May cause skin sensitization. Wood dust may cause respiratory sensitization or irritation (Western Red Cedar). Prolonged or repeated exposure may damage respiratory system.	



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Carcinogenicity	Wood dust may cause nasopharyngeal cancer and/or cancer of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses by inhalation.	
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**Prevention Statements:**

- Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
- Avoid breathing dust.
- Use outdoors or in a well-ventilated area. In case of inadequate ventilation, wear appropriate respiratory protection.
- Wear appropriate protective equipment for skin or eye exposures.
- Prevent dust release and accumulations to minimize hazards.
- Keep away from sparks, flame, or other heat sources.
- Take precautionary measures against static discharge.

**Response Statements:**

- Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.
- If on skin, wash skin with plenty of soap and water.
- If in eyes, rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do so. Continue rinsing.
- Seek medical advice if skin irritation or eye irritation persists.
- If inhaled and breathing becomes difficult, remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. If symptoms persist, call a doctor or other qualified medical professional.
- Call a poison control centre or doctor if you feel unwell.

**Disposal:** Dispose in accordance with federal, state, and local rules and regulations.

### 3. Composition/Information on Ingredients

Chemical Name:	None
Common name and synonyms:	Wood, Untreated Lumber, Wood Dust (softwood species), logs, woodchips, shavings, sawdust, hog fuel



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CAS #:	None
%w/w:	100
Note:	Some untreated wood products including logs and residuals may contain extraneous material such as soil or rock fragments that may contain crystalline silica particles.

#### 4. First Aid Measures

##### Exposure Route:

- Ingestion
- Inhalation:
- Skin Contact:
- Eye Contact:

##### Treatment:

Not expected to be harmful.

Remove to fresh air. Seek medical attention if persistent irritation, severe coughing or breathing difficulties occur.

Seek medical attention if rash, irritation, or dermatitis persists.

Flush with water to remove dust particles. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do so. Avoid touching or rubbing eyes to avoid further irritation or injury. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.

##### Symptoms/Effects:

- Delayed  
Wood dust Wood dust may cause nasopharyngeal cancer and/or cancer of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses by inhalation.
- Acute  
Wood dust may irritate the skin, eyes, and respiratory system. Dermatitis. Rash. Wood dust may obstruct the nasal passages and could cause dryness of the nasal passages, coughing, and sneezing.

#### 5. Fire-Fighting Measures

Flash Point:	N/A
Auto Ignition Temperature:	Variable; typically, 400-500°F (201-260 °C)
Extinguishing Media:	Water, carbon dioxide, foam, dry chemical. Ensure extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding fire.



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Specific Hazards,  
Anticipated Combustion  
Products:

Depending on moisture content, particle diameter and concentration, wood dust may pose a flash fire or deflagration hazard. If suspended in air in a wood dust "cloud" in an enclosure or container and is ignited, an explosion may occur due to the development of internal pressure causing rupture. An airborne concentration of 40 grams (40,000 mg) of dust per cubic meter of air is often used as the Minimum Explosible Concentration (MEC) for wood dusts.

Special Protective  
Equipment & Precautions:

Burning/smouldering wood and wood dust primarily produce carbon oxides, but may release polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, aldehydes, and terpenes.

No special equipment necessary, self-contained breathing apparatus is recommended for fire fighting.

Clean regularly to prevent excessive accumulation of wood dust.

Ensure ventilation equipment is properly operating to capture, transport, contain combustible dust while controlling ignition sources. Reference NFPA 652 "Standard on the Fundamentals of Combustible Dust".

Use water to wet down wood and wood dust to reduce the likelihood of ignition and the dispersion of dust into the air.

Remove burned, charred, or wet dust to an open, secure area after fire is extinguished.

### 6. Accidental Release Measures

Steps to be taken:

Vacuum wood dust and damp mop wood dust residue. Place recovered dust and residue in appropriate container for disposal. Use approved respirator or face mask when ventilation is not possible or sufficient or to improve worker comfort.

### 7. Handling and Storage

Precautions for safe handling:

Keep wood dust away from heat and ignition sources. Avoid prolonged wood dust exposure to skin and prolonged or repeated breathing of wood dust.

Conditions for safe storage:

Store accumulated wood dust in well ventilated, cool, dry place. Damp wood dust may self-heat.



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Safe Limits of Accumulation:

WorkSafeBC Combustible Dust Limits within an enclosed or partially enclosed structure (particle size of less than 450 microns) is equal to or less than 1/8 of an inch over 1000 square feet or 5% of total surface areas, which ever is lesser. Coarser material can not be allowed to build up to pose a fire risk.

OHA 5.81 – If combustible dust collects in a building or structure or on machinery or equipment, it must be safely removed before accumulation of dust could cause a fire or explosion.

### 8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protective Equipment

Control Parameters:

Ingredient	Agency	Exposure Limit	Comments
Wood (wood dust, softwood or hardwood, logs, wood chips)	OSHA	PEL-TWA 15 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (see note *)	Total Dust (PNOR)
	OSHA	PEL-TWA 5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (see note *)	Respirable dust fraction (PNOR)
	ACGIH	TLV-TWA 0.5mg/m <sup>3</sup> (Western Red Cedar)  TLV-TWA 1 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (all other species)	Inhalable fraction
	Alberta	0.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (Western Red Cedar)  5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (all other species)	Total Fraction
	British Columbia	TWA 1 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (Western Red Cedar)  TWA 2.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (non-allergenic softwood)	Respirable fraction

*Note \*: Specific OSHA PELs vacated when OSHA's 1989 Air Contaminants Rule was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in AFL-CIO v. OSHA, 965 F.2d 962 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992). The 1989 PELs were 5mg/m<sup>3</sup> PEL-TWA and 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> STEL (15 min), all softwood and hardwood except Western Red Cedar. Wood dust is now regulated by OSHA as "Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated" (PNOR). Some states may regulate wood dust PELs in state plans. Additionally, OSHA has indicated that it may cite employers under the OSH Act general duty clause in some circumstances.*

Engineering Controls:

Provide local exhaust if possible so that exposure limits are met and to prevent wood dust accumulation in general work area. Provide good general or local ventilation in processing and storage areas. Ground all equipment in and around wood dust to prevent static sparks.



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Individual Protection Measures:

Use gloves, tight fitting goggles or safety glasses, outer garments that cover the skin to prevent prolonged or repeated skin and eye exposure in dusty environments.

Filtering face masks tested and approved under applicable government standards (e.g. NIOSH (USA), CSA (Canada)) where exposure limits may be exceeded.

Keep work areas free of accumulated dust and avoid practices that disperse dust such as compressed air.

### 9. Physical/Chemical Properties

Appearance:	Light to dark color granular solid wood, wood chips, shavings, logs, untreated lumber. Color dependent on wood species and time dust was generated.
Odor/Odor Threshold:	N/A
pH:	N/A
Melting & Freezing Point:	N/A
Initial Boiling Point & Boiling Range:	N/A
Flash Point:	N/A
Evaporation Rate:	N/A
Flammability (solid, gas):	N/A
Explosive Limit:	40,000 mg of dust per cubic meter of air is often used. Lower limits vary with exact composition, particle size, moisture level, rate of heating.
Vapour Pressure:	N/A
Vapour Density (air =1):	N/A
Relative Density (air=1):	N/A
Solubility:	Variable <0.1
Partition Coefficient n-Octanol/Water	N/A
Auto ignition Temperature:	Variable [typically 400-500 degrees F, 204-260 C]
Decomposition Temperature:	Variable [typically 400-930 degrees F; 200-500 C]
Viscosity:	N/A

### 10. Stability and Reactivity

Reactivity:	N/A
Chemical Stability:	Stable under normal conditions.



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Possibility of Hazardous Reactions:

Polymerization will not occur.

Conditions to avoid incompatible Materials:

Avoid all sources of ignition.

Hazardous Decomposition Products:

Avoid contact with oxidizing agents and drying oils.  
None known. Decomposition by heat will produce water, carbon dioxide, formic acid, carbon monoxide, inflammable vapors, wood coal and aldehydes and should not occur in poorly ventilated areas.

### 11. Toxicological Information

Likely routes of exposure to dust:

Inhalation, Skin, Eye

Acute toxicity:

LD50/LC50 not available

Skin corrosion/irritation:

Causes skin irritation

Carcinogenicity:

Wood dust may cause nasopharyngeal cancer and/or cancer of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses by inhalation.

NTP (National Toxicology Program): Wood Dust classified as human carcinogen.

IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer): Wood Dust classified as human carcinogen.

OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) Regulated: Crystalline silica

IARC – GROUP 1: Carcinogenic to humans: Sufficient evidence of carcinogenicity. This classification is primarily based on studies showing an association between occupational exposure to wood dust and adenocarcinoma of the nasal cavity and paranasal sinuses.

Specific target organ toxicity (repeat exposure):

May cause damage to organs (respiratory system) through prolonged/repeated exposure.

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure):

May cause respiratory irritation.

Reproductive Toxicity:

No data available.

Neurotoxicity and teratogenicity:

No data available.

Mutagenicity:

No data available.

### 12. Ecological Information

Eco-toxicity:

Not available for finished product.



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Bio-persistence and Degradability: Material is biodegradable.

Bio-Accumulation: Not expected to bio-accumulate.

Soil Mobility: Not available.

Other Adverse Affects: N/A.

### 13. Disposal Considerations

Disposal Methods: Dry land disposal or incineration is acceptable in most areas. It is the user's responsibility to determine whether the material meets local criteria for the type of disposal chosen at the time of disposal. Wood dust may pose a combustible hazard.

### 14. Transportation Information

Transportation: Not regulated for transport.

### 15. Regulatory Information

WHMIS (Canada): Wood and wood products are exempt from WHMIS; wood dust may be considered a controlled product based on carcinogenicity.

CERCLA: N/A

DSL: N/A

OSHA: Wood products are not hazardous under OSHA Hazard Communication Standards. Wood dust from sawing, sanding, machining is considered hazardous.

TSCA: N/A

SARA Section 311/312 Immediate (acute) health hazard.

Hazardous Classes: Delayed (chronic) health hazard.

California Proposition 65: WARNING: Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards of personal protection. For more information go to <https://www.p65warnings.ca.gov/wood>.

WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals, including Titanium Dioxide, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer, and Methanol, which is known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to <https://p65warnings.ca.gov>





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Pennsylvania: Wood dust and crystalline silica appear on PA's Appendix A, Hazardous Substances List.

New Jersey: Wood dust and crystalline silica appear on NJ's Environmental Hazardous Substances List.

### **16. Other Information**

Date Prepared: June 2020

User Responsibility: The information contained in this Safety Data Sheet is based on the experience of occupational health and safety professionals and comes from sources believed to be accurate or otherwise technically correct. It is the user's responsibility to determine if the product is suitable for its proposed application(s) and to follow necessary safety precautions. The user has the responsibility to ensure that the most current SDS is used.

Abbreviations: N/A – Not Applicable

## Label for Wood and Wood Dust products

**Wood and Wood Dust  
(without chemical treatments or resins/additives), including  
Untreated Lumber (all species/grades), Logs, Chips, and Sawdust**

**Signal Word:**

- Danger

**Hazard Statements:**

- Wood dust may cause respiratory, skin and eye irritation.
- Wood dust may form combustible dust concentrations in air if small particles become airborne or are formed during processing or handling.
- Wood dust may cause nasopharyngeal cancer and/or cancer of the nasal cavities and paranasal sinuses by inhalation.

**Precautions:**

- Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
- Use outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.
- Avoid breathing dust and wear appropriate protective equipment for respiratory, skin, or eye exposures.
- Prevent dust release and accumulations to minimize hazards.
- Remove contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.
- Keep dust away from ignition sources such as heat, sparks, and flame.

**First Aid Responses:**

**If in eyes:** Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Contact medical assistance if symptoms persist.

**If on skin:** Wash with soap and water. If skin irritation or rash occurs, seek medical advice/attention.

**If inhaled:** If experiencing respiratory symptoms, remove to fresh air. Contact medical assistance for serious or persistent respiratory symptoms.

**Seek medical attention if you feel unwell.**

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