

## 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!**

