

BORN™ WOOD RECOMMENDATIONS

Body	Top	Why We Like It	Things to Consider
Alder	Walnut	Already a rather balanced body wood, Alder is complemented well by a Walnut top which tightens up the low end quite a bit while also adding some warmth and lots of sustain.	
Alder	N/A	Known for being tonally balanced, but with a very pronounced and boisterous midrange. It's attack is fluid and clear. A little on the 'brighter' end of the spectrum, but is not brittle or biting, producing well-rounded highs. A classic and standard tonewood that many people are familiar with. Tonally balanced and works equally well with single coil pickups and humbuckers. Great Examples: Think SRV, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton... I think you get the idea :)	Alder has a neutral color and very subtle grain pattern making it suitable for many types of finish
Mahogany	Maple	Arguably the most commonly paired electric guitar body woods of all time, this combination really complements the most desirable elements of each individual wood type. This combo possesses the richness, warmth, and sustain of Mahogany while the Maple top adds the perfect amount of brightness, clarity and attack.	
Mahogany	Walnut	This is a great combination that accentuates mid-range and upper mid-range frequencies of your guitar. The Walnut adds great sustain to the guitar, while the Mahogany maintains a well balanced tone. Mahogany and Walnut also look very sexy together because of their complimentary range of browns ranging from light tans to dark chocolate.	
Mahogany	Douglas Fir	Adding Douglas Fir to Mahogany accentuates Mahogany's naturally balanced sound by adding responsiveness, projection and sustain.	The light color allows for interesting finish options such as bursts and artwork.

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Mahogany	POC	<p>Both woods on their own are extremely well balanced tonally, but a POC top on a Mahogany body articulates the highs better than Mahogany on its own. The contrast in color also makes for a visually stunning combination with many options for top finish.</p>	<p>POC is a very soft wood. A Lacquer finish will help protect your POC top, but this combination is not recommend if you are worried about getting pick marks in your top or you tend to be hard on your guitars.</p>
Mahogany	N/A	<p>Another Staple in the guitar industry, Honduran Mahogany is often described as having a "neutral", or perfectly balanced tone. It provides a rich and warm resonance, and it complements other tonewoods quite well when combined in the same instrument. For this reason, Honduran Mahogany is often considered to be the starting point of building a particular desired tone in the instrument. Honduran Mahogany is a beautiful and traditional tonewood with excellent tonal properties that work well alone or when paired with other woods. Beautiful natural appearance, but also looks great with stained finishes.</p>	<p>Mahogany has a very open grain structure, so if finished without pore fill, you will be able to feel the natural contours of the pores. Many guitarist actually like this natural feel, which adds a nice subtle texture to our oils finished necks.</p>
POC	Pistachio	<p>The lightweight POC body counters the heaviness of the pistachio to make a rather lightweight and balanced guitar. The pistachio complements the warmth and roudness of the POC by adding brightness and focused upper frequencies. In our experience, this combination provides a very unbiased and transparent natural tone, allowing it to be used in many different musical contexts depending on pickup choices. This combination also projects extremely well even acoustically.</p>	<p>POC is a very soft wood, but it is extremely stable and resistant to climate changes. As long as you take care not to bang your guitar against hard objects you should not have a problem with denting the body/neck. The Pistachio Top will be very durable since it is extremely hard.</p>
POC	Redwood	<p>The combination of these two soft and lightweight woods produces a very midrangy tone. The redwood softens some of the POC's highs, producing some natural compression and an articulate midrange. This combination can be very loud unamplified.</p>	<p>These two would are very soft compared to other tonewoods, and therefore this combo is not recommended for touring or for players who are rough on their guitars.</p>

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POC	Myrtlewood	<p>Similar to the POC/Pistachio combination, these two tonewoods compliment each other beautifully. Both are extremely balanced and resonant woods, which provide a very transparent natural, well-rounded tone.</p>	<p>POC is a very soft wood, but it is extremely stable and resistant to climate changes. As long as you take care not to bang your guitar against hard objects you should not have a problem with large dents. The Myrtlewood Top will be is fairly dense and will hold up to a heavy pick attack.</p>
Swamp Ash	Redwood	<p>The softness and lower density of the Redwood adds the perfect amount of warmth to the otherwise bright Swamp Ash. With the additional warmth, some of the snappy attack associated with the Ash is sacrificed, but this combination still projects a very balanced tone. We've found it to produce everything from good clean jazz tones and bluesy overdriven tones to warm classic rock tones. This combo can be utilized in many musical situations.</p>	<p>Redwood is also a fairly soft wood. A Lacquer finish will help protect your Redwood top, but this combination is not recommend if you are worried about getting pick marks in your top or you tend to be hard on your guitars. A pickguard is an easy fix for this issue on our drop tops (OG & MG Drops)</p>
Swamp Ash	N/A	<p>Swamp Ash is known for being a very bright wood. It has a strong low end, a very bright and clear high end, but can have a somewhat "scooped" midrange. It's attack is about as pronounced and snappy as it gets. Another classic and standard tonewood that many people are familiar with. Although it is not highly figured, it usually has very interesting and distinguished grain patterns. Great Example - T-Style Guitars</p>	<p>Swamp Ash has large and open pores that will require pore filling. It lacks, somewhat, in the midrange frequencies, so it often works well paired with a complementary wood. (See Swamp Ash & Walnut or Swamp Ash & Redwood Above)</p>

*** All Wood Combinations will vary slightly in tonal characteristic from piece to piece due to wood's organic quality. Chambering, Semi-Hollow versions, Body Thickness, and Top Thickness will also affect the tone slightly. We can use these effects to help shape the tone of your guitar. Call us and we can help walk you through what options will work**