



LOG SPLITTER BUYING GUIDE



SOFTWOODS		HARDWOODS	
Alder	590	Ash	1320
Aspen	420	Beech	1300
Basswood	410	Birch	1470
Boxelder	720	Dogwood	2150
Buckeye	350	Elm	1540
Catalpa	550	Hickory	1820
Cedar	900	Locust	1700
Cottonwood	430	Magnolia	1020
Fir	710	Maple	1450
Pine	860	Oak	1620
Poplar	540	Sweet Gum	850
Spruce	510	Walnut	1010

➔ HARDNESS SCALE (Janka hardness test)

1. TYPE OF WOOD BEING SPLIT

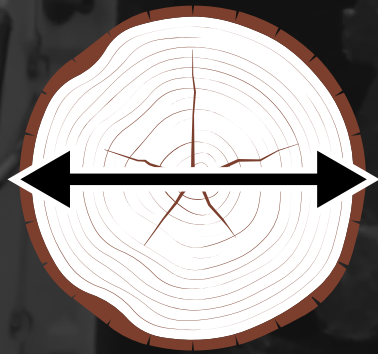
When choosing a log splitter, it's important to know what type of wood you're going to be splitting. Will you be primarily splitting hardwoods or softwoods?

Find the types of wood you plan to be working with on the chart, and then determine which one has the highest hardness. Base the tonnage calculations in the next steps based on the hardest wood.

2. IS THE WOOD GREEN OR DRY?

Green wood is difficult to split and takes more tonnage to split effectively. Over time, the moisture in the wood will evaporate making it more brittle and easier to split. If your plan involves splitting green wood, you will need to have a more powerful log splitter and exercise some patience.

- **GREEN:** Freshly cut logs have a high moisture content and a slightly green or yellow color to them.
- **DRY:** Seasoned wood has lost most of its moisture and will have a more faded color – either brown or gray.



3. WHAT IS THE LOG DIAMETER?

It's important to think about the diameter of the logs you're planning to split, both now and in the future.

Even if you only split 6" thick pine logs now, is it possible that you might split 12" or even 18" thick logs in the future? If so, you might want to plan ahead and buy a splitter with more power now so you don't end up with a tool that can't do what you need it to later on.

TONNAGE SELECTOR CHART

Now that we've gone over the 3 key pieces of information to be considered when selecting a log splitter, use the chart below as a reference point for choosing the right tonnage rating for your specific needs.

SIZE	HARDNESS ▶ 300 - 600 lb.		601 - 900 lb.		901 - 1500 lb.		1501 - 2200 lb.	
	DRY	GREEN	DRY	GREEN	DRY	GREEN	DRY	GREEN
6 in.	4+	7+	6+	9+	7+	16+	10+	20+
12 in.	12+	30+	15+	30+	20+	30+	22+	30+
18 in.	20+	30+	20+	30+	26+	34+	26+	34+
24 in.	27+	30+	27+	30+	30+	34+	30+	34+