



Image: © Sven / Fotolia

The most important questions and answers about PEFC™ Certification

Would you like to know more about PEFC™ Certification? Here, we answer the most frequently asked questions for you.

1. WHAT DOES PEFC™ STAND FOR?

PEFC™ is the abbreviation for the international „Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes“. The certification system for sustainable **forest management** is based on international decisions from the environmental conference in Rio in 1992 and its subsequent conferences.

2. WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF PEFC™ ?

The primary goal of PEFC™ is the documentation and improvement of the sustainable forest management according to economic, ecological and social standards. Furthermore, the forest certification improves the image of the forest industry and of the renewable raw material wood.



3. WHICH COUNTRIES RECOGNIZE PEFC™?

PEFC™ is a standard that is recognized worldwide. In many countries, the PEFC™ Certification is already required as a proof that wood and paper come from legally and sustainably managed forests.

4. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A PEFC™ COC CERTIFICATION?

The PEFC™ CoC Certification does not certify just the wood itself but rather the entire product chain (chain of custody), from harvesting the material to the final intended purpose and destination. You therefore prove that the flow of materials is documented and verified without interruption and that your products indeed come from sustainably managed forests. With a certification, you create peace of mind for retail and for end users.

5. CAN I COMBINE A PEFC™ COC CERTIFICATION WITH A FSC® COC CERTIFICATION?

Yes, a combination with a FSC® CoC Certification is possible. Please let us know whether you are interested when you first contact us.

6. WHY DO I NEED A PEFC™ FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION?

With a PEFC™ Certification, you verify the sustainable management of your forest. At the same time, you document that you are taking into account the ecological, economic and social roles of the forest. This gives you an advantage over your competitors and provides access to companies that are interested in certified forest businesses only.

7. CAN I HAVE MY RECREATIONAL FOREST CERTIFIED?

Yes. Since 2015, it is possible to obtain a PEFC™ certificate for recreational forests. With a certification, you document that you are not only committed to a sustainable forest management but are also dedicated to the people who enjoy time outdoors, and that you meet the requirements for recreational forests.

8. CAN CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS BE CERTIFIED?

Yes. The PEFC™ Standard for Christmas Tree Production in Wooded Areas was passed in December 2014. It is based on the PEFC™ standards for sustainable forest management and was modified to reflect specific issues relevant to the production of Christmas trees. The certification is associated with an annual on-site audit, which is conducted on an individual company-basis.

YOU DID NOT SEE YOUR QUESTION? PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF OUR EXPERTS – WE WILL BE HAPPY TO FURTHER ASSIST YOU.

[ONLINE CONTACT](#)

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