

Hardwood Hardness Rating Chart

Wood Species Relative Hardness Table

Below are listed the relative hardness for numerous wood species used in flooring. These ratings were done using the Janka Hardness Test, which measures the force needed to embed a .444 inch steel ball to half its diameter in a piece of wood. The higher the rating number, the harder the wood species. Although this is one of the best methods to measure the ability of wood species to withstand indentations, it should be used as a general guide when comparing various species of wood flooring. The construction and finish also play an important role in the durability and ease of maintenance of any wood floor.

WOOD SPECIES	RATING
Douglas Fir	660
Southern Yellow Pine (shortleaf)	690
Southern Yellow Pine (longleaf)	870
Black Cherry	950
Teak	1000
Black Walnut	1010
Heart Pine	1225
Yellow Birch	1260
Red Oak(Northern)	1290
American Beech	1300
Ash	1320
White Oak	1360
Australian Cypress	1375
Hard maple	1450
Wenge	1620
African Pedauk	1725
Hickory	1820
Pecan	1820
Purpleheart	1860
Jarrah	1910
Merbau	1925
Santos Mahogany	2200
Mesquite	2345
Brazilian Cherry	2350