

Species Hardness

We offer a beautiful variety of wood species.

From traditional oak to rustic hickory, Columbia Flooring offers products that use the finest American hardwoods.

Each wood species also offers unique attributes, including a hardness rating. The chart at left shows this rating as measured by the Janka test, which measures the force necessary to embed a .444-inch steel ball halfway into each species. Although no species is impervious to indentation, the higher the ranking the less likely this will happen with normal usage.

| Species | |
|-----------------|------|
| Hickory/Pecan | 1574 |
| Maple | 1450 |
| Ash | 1320 |
| Oak | 1290 |
| Walnut | 1010 |
| American Cherry | 950 |

Note: The rating applies only to the wood finish. Consider species hardness when selecting a floor for high-traffic areas.

Color Fade / Photosensitivity

Keep in mind that many wood species change in color or tone with exposure to light. This color change is gradual and can occur with any wood product. The photosensitivity chart to the right ranks floors from "stable" to 10, with "stable" being the least likely to **alter in color** with exposure to light, while 10 represents a more dramatic change.

Example:

A cherry hardwood floor has a photosensitivity rating of 7. If I place a rug on top of my floor, I will see a rug outline, if the floor experienced prolonged exposure to sunlight.

| Species | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Hickory/Pecan | 3 |
| Maple | 2 |
| Ash | Stable |
| Oak | Stable |
| Walnut | 4 |
| American Cherry | 7 |