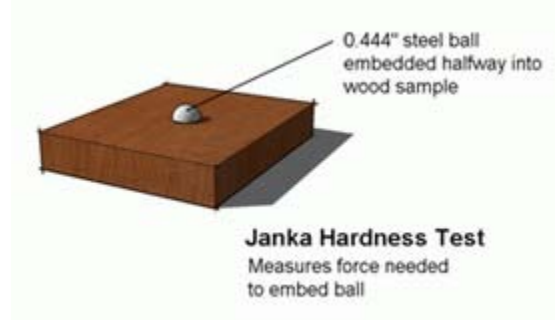


The Janka scale rates the relative hardness of wood. We have listed some of the most popular choices in wood flooring and included some more exotic species for your reference and comparison.

The higher the number the harder the wood. These ratings were determined using the Janka Hardness Test which measures the side hardness measure of the force required to embed a .444 inch steel ball to half its diameter into the wood. This is one of the best measures of the ability of wood species to withstand denting and wear. It is also a good indicator of how hard a species is to saw or nail.

**This should only be used as a general guide when comparing various species of wood flooring. Depending on where the wood is harvested the results may vary.** Plank construction and finish are also important factors when determining the durability and ease of maintenance of any wood floor.



A wood's relative hardness is determined with the Janka Rating System, which measures the force required to drive a .444 inch steel ball into the wood until half the diameter of the ball is imbedded in the wood.

The Janka Hardness Scale rating has become the industry standard for determining whether a given wood is suitable for flooring material. Red Oak, which has a Janka rating of 1290, is the industry benchmark for comparing the relative hardness of different wood species.

The majority of hardwoods and many softwoods are durable enough to withstand normal flooring use - especially with proper installation and finishing. However, no matter the Janka rating, all wood will dent or mar with a hard enough impact .

<b>3684</b>	Brazilian Walnut /Ipe
<b>3220</b>	Ebony
<b>2350</b>	Brazilian Cherry /Jatoba
<b>2345</b>	Mesquite
<b>2200</b>	Santos Mahogany
<b>1940</b>	Cameron
<b>1925</b>	Merbau
<b>1860</b>	Purpleheart
<b>1850</b>	Tigerwood
<b>1820</b>	Hickory and Pecan
<b>1780</b>	Rosewood
<b>1725</b>	African Padauk

<b>1700</b>	Locust
<b>1630</b>	Wenge
<b>1630</b>	Red Pine
<b>1575</b>	Zebrawood
<b>1570</b>	True Pine
<b>1470</b>	Sweet Birch
<b>1450</b>	Hard / Sugar Maple
<b>1390</b>	Kentucky Coffee Tree
<b>1380</b>	Natural Bamboo
<b>1375</b>	Australian Cypress
<b>1360</b>	White Oak
<b>1320</b>	White Ash
<b>1300</b>	American Beech
<b>1290</b>	Northern Red Oak
<b>1280</b>	Caribbean Heart Pine
<b>1260</b>	Yellow Birch
<b>1225</b>	Yellow Heart Pine
<b>1180</b>	Carbonized Bamboo
<b>1136</b>	Cocobolo
<b>1010</b>	American Walnut
<b>1000</b>	Teak
<b>950</b>	American Cherry
<b>950</b>	Soft and Ambrosia Maple
<b>910</b>	Paper Birch
<b>900</b>	Cedar
<b>870</b>	Southern Yellow Pine (Longleaf)
<b>860</b>	American Red Elm
<b>840</b>	Lacewood
<b>790</b>	Cumaru
<b>770</b>	Sycamore
<b>690</b>	S.Yellow Pine (Loblolly & Shortleaf)
<b>660</b>	Douglas Fir
<b>630</b>	Sassafras
<b>590</b>	Larch
<b>570</b>	Cypress, Southern
<b>540</b>	Chestnut
<b>540</b>	Poplar
<b>500</b>	Hemlock
<b>420</b>	White Pine
<b>410</b>	Basswood
<b>380</b>	Eastern White Pine