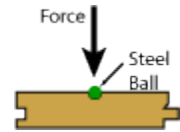


Janka Wood Hardness Scale

The Janka rating is a measure of the amount of force required to push a .444" diameter steel ball half way into a piece of wood. In laymans terms it is a way to measure a woods resistance to denting.



It is not productive to take issue with the exact number, but rather understand the "relative" hardness of one wood to another. I say this because I know from experience that two pieces of the same type of wood, one grown quickly further south and one slowly in more northern climates will have quite different Janka ratings, just because of their individual "speed of growth"... and you certainly can't ask a wholesaler for a chunk of wood that grew on the 72nd parallel. 😊

Thus a common use of the Janka Hardness Scale is to determine a [woods suitability as a wood for hardwood flooring](#). The higher the number the greater its resistance to denting as it lives life.

California Redwood	420
Douglas Fir	660
Southern Yellow Pine (loblolly & short leaf)	690
Honduran Mahogany	800
African Mahogany	830
South American Lacewood	840
Southern Yellow Pine (longleaf)	870
Black Cherry	950
American Black Walnut American Black Walnut Hardwood Flooring	1010
Peruvian Walnut	1080
Brazilian Eucalyptus	1125
Teak	1155
Bamboo (carbonized)	1180
Larch	1200
Heart Pine	1225
Caribbean Heart pine	1240

Yellow Birch	1260
Red Oak (Northern)	1290
American Beech	1300
Ash	1320
White Oak	1360
Australian Cypress	1375
Bamboo (natural)	1380
Royal Mahogany	1400
Hard maple	1450
African Walnut/Sappelle	1500
Brazilian Maple	1500
Zebrawood	1575
Wenge	1630
Brazilian Oak	1650
Bamboo	1650
Patens	1691
Peruvian Maple	1700
Kempas	1710
African Pedauk (Padeuk/African Cherry)	1725
Bolivian Rosewood /Morado	1780
Hickory/Pecan	1820
Kempas	1854
Purpleheart	1860
Jarrah	1910
Amendoim	1912
Merbau	1925