

# TIMBER TYPES & FINISHES:

	Wood Types	Janka Hardness (Kn)	Characteristic	Texture	Ease of Working	Ease of Finishing
SOFT	Basswood	1,8	Fairly strong, very stable	Fine	Very easy, but dents easily	Easy, usually painted, stained or varnished
	Pine, white (softwood)	1,9	Fairly strong, very stable	Medium	Very easy, but dents easily	Very easy to paint or varnish, harder to obtain lustrous oil finish
	Imbuia	2,2	Very strong, stable	Medium	Easy	Easy to oil or varnish
	Poplar	2,4	Very strong, stable	Fine	Very easy, but dents easily	Easy to paint or varnish. May require many coats of oil for lustrous finish, colour may be bland
	Douglas Fir	2,7	Fairly strong, very stable	Medium	Easy	Fairly difficult because of knots
	MEDIUM	Meranti	3,4	Strong, very stable	Medium	Easy
Mahogany		3,7	Strong, very stable	Medium	Easy	Easy to varnish, harder to obtain lustrous oil finish
Cherry, Black		4,2	Strong, stable	Fine	Easy	Very easy to oil or varnish
Teak		4,4	Very strong, very stable	Medium	Easy, but hard to glue	Easy, usually oiled
Walnut		4,5	Strong, very stable	Medium	Easy, but can dent	Very easy to oil or varnish
Birch, Yellow		5,6	Strong, fairly stable	Medium	Fairly difficult, hard to plane	Easy to oil or varnish but colour may be bland
Saligna		5,6	Strong, fairly stable	Medium	Easy, but can splinter	Easy to oil or varnish
Beech		5,8	Very strong, stable	Fine	Fairly difficult	Easy to oil or varnish
Ash, White		5,9	Very strong, very stable	Coarse	Fairly difficult	Sand and stains unevenly
Oak, White		6,0	Fairly strong, very stable	Course	Easy, but can splinter	Easy to oil or varnish. Can be filled
Maple, Sugar		6,4	Very strong, fairly stable	Fine	Fairly difficult	Very easy to oil and varnish
Hickory		6,7	Very strong, stable	Course	Difficult, dulls cutting edges	Easy to oil or varnish
Sapele		6,7	Strong, very stable	Medium	Easy	Easy to varnish but difficult if lustrous oiled finish required may need filling
HARD		Kiaat	8,6	Strong, stable	Fine	Easy
	Rosewood	12,1	Strong, very stable	Fine	Difficult, hard to glue	Easy usually oiled
	Zimbabwean Teak	13,3	Very strong, very stable	Fine	Difficult to machine hardwood	Very easy to varnish, oil and polish