

Common Wood Properties and Uses

Species	Wt/* lbs/cuft	Hardness	Strength	Splitting Potential	Stability	Decay Resistant	Where Used
ASH, Black	39.5	Medium	Medium	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Handles, dowels, blocks, balls, lamp parts.
ASH, White	41	Hard	High	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Rollers, handles, long dowels, sports equipment.
ASPEN	25	Soft	Medium	No	Good	No	Light-duty dowels, pallet packing and masking.
BASSWOOD	26	Soft	Low	No	Good	No	Light-duty use; decorations, carvings, mouldings.
BEECH	45	Hard	High	Yes	Fair	No	Work bench tops; substitute for hard maple
BIRCH, White	36	Medium	Medium	No	Good	Moderate	Fine turning wood: dowels, toy parts.
BIRCH, Yellow	44	Hard	High	No	Good	No	Finishes beautifully; turnings, mouldings, commercial cabinets
CHERRY	35	Medium	High	Moderate	Excellent	Moderate	Furniture, food paddles, industrial patterns.
CYPRESS	32	Soft	Medium	Yes	Good	High	Good for outdoor use. water tanks, mouldings.
ELM, Rock	44	Hard	High	No	Good	Moderate	Excellent for rollers, blocks, handles, farm implements.
ELM, Soft	37	Medium	Medium	No	Good	No	Bends well, interesting look for furniture.
FIR	34	Medium	High	Yes	Fair	Moderate	Good construction lumber.
GUM. Black	35	Soft	Medium	No	Fair	No	Bores nicely; rollers, handles, bushings, implements.
GUM, Red	35	Soft	Medium	No	Fair	No	Intricate turnings: furniture parts, wedges, bushings.
HICKORY	51	Very Hard	High	Moderate	Fair	No	Heavy duty tool handles, foundry blocks, wedges.
MAPLE, Hard	44	Very Hard	High	Yes	Good	Moderate	Resists abrasion; bench tops, blocks, handles.
MAPLE, Soft	33	Hard	High	No	Fair	Moderate	Spool hubs, furniture frames, dowels, toy parts.
OAK. Red	44	Very Hard	High	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Butcher Blocks, rollers, agricultural implements.
OAK. White	47	Very Hard	High	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Heavy rollers, plugs, tool handles, agricultural implements
PINE. White	27	Soft	Low	Yes	Excellent	Moderate	Architectural designs, mouldings, models, patterns.
POPLAR. Yellow	28	Soft	Medium	Moderate	Fair	No	Lamp parts, musical Instruments.
REDWOOD	28	Soft	Medium	No	Good	High	Good for outdoor use: water tanks, mouldings.
SYCAMORE	34	Hard	Medium	No	Fair	Moderate	Butchers blocks, rollers.
WALNUT	38	Hard	High	Moderate	Excellent	Moderate	Trophy bases, display cabinets, lamp and furniture parts.

* Pounds Per Cubic Foot Dried to 12 Per Cent Moisture