

## Wood Species Density Chart

Wood Species	Hardness	Density	Grain & Texture	Texture	Finish Application
Alder	hard	light	No distinct grain pattern. Smooth	Smooth	Any Finish
Ash	hard	medium	Moderately open, pronounced grain.		Because of its large pores it is seldom painted but takes all other finishes very well.
Aspen	soft	light	Very even grained	Smooth	Good for non-penetrating finishes such as water based stains and paints.
Beech	hard	heavy	Close and straight grained, with little figure and a uniform texture, identified by its dark pores in conspicuous rays.	Smooth	Easy to paint or stain.
Birch	hard	heavy	Fine grained (often curly or wavy)	Smooth	Takes paints and stains well.
Cherry	hard	heavy	Straight-grained and satiny. Small gum pockets produce distinctive markings.	Smooth	Unsurpassed in its finishing qualities-its uniform texture takes a finish very well.
Hickory	Hard	Heavy	Fine grain		The grain pattern welcomes a full range of medium-to-dark finishes
Mahogany	hard	medium	It is generally straight grained but is prized for its figures which include stripe, roe, curly, blister, fiddleback, and mottle.	Coarse	Finishes and stains to a beautiful natural luster
Maple	hard	heavy	delicate, figuring,	Smooth	
Oak	hard	heavy	figured, especially when quarter-sawn, coarse	Coarse	
Parawood	hard	heave	Open grain similar to mahogany	Medium	Takes a very even stain
Pine, knotty	soft	light	straight	Smooth	
Pine, ponderosa	soft	light	uniform	Smooth	
Pine, white	soft	light	uneven	Smooth	
Pine, radiata	soft	medium	uneven, wide grain	Coarse	
Poplar	hard	medium	delicate figuring	Smooth	
Rosewood , Brazilian & Indian	hard	heavy	figured, coarse	Coarse	
Teak	hard	heavy	figured, coarse	Coarse	
Walnut	hard	heavy	delicate, uniform, figuring	Smooth	