



Beautiful Floors
Environmentally Sound

Janka Hardness Test Values for Various Woods:

Hardness is expressed numerically as the pounds per square inch of pressure required to sink a .444 inch steel ball one-half its diameter into the surface of the wood. This is called the Janka Test (ASTM D 1037-7). The test results indicate a given wood's ability to withstand dents and impact, and hence are an important factor in judging its utility as flooring.

| | <u>PSI</u> |
|---|-------------------|
| Patagonian Rosewood | 3840 |
| Cumaru (aka Brazilian Teak) | 3540 |
| Bamboo - Woven | 3000 |
| Brazilian Cherry | 2820 |
| Mayan Chestnut | 2670 |
| Stonewood | 2340 |
| Caribbean Rosewood | 2300 |
| Santos Mahogany | 2200 |
| White Tigerwood | 2160 |
| Hickory / Pecan | 1820 |
| Australian Chestnut | 1800 |
| Hard Maple | 1450 |
| Caribbean Walnut | 1400 |
| **Bamboo - Natural | 1350-1600 |
| - Amber | 1100-1300 |
| Acacia | 1380 |
| White Oak (Coffee Oak, Espresso Oak) | 1360 |
| Red Oak | 1290 |
| Orchard Walnut | 1010 |
| Teak (True) | 1000 |
| American Cherry | 950 |
| Northern Yellow Pine | 870 |

** Some Bamboo flooring manufacturers make dubious claims about Moso Bamboo's hardness. While it is true that Natural color Moso Bamboo can be as hard or harder than Maple, Amber color (aka carbonized) Moso Bamboo is significantly softer than Maple because the Bamboo is weakened by the carbonization process. Also, some sellers of Bamboo advertise Janka values that they obtain by testing the "knuckle" or knot of the Bamboo plant, which occupies a small fraction of the surface of the floor. The knuckle is generally much harder than the rest of the floor, so these values can be very misleading.