

WOOD IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Hard Maple

PARAMOUNT

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Common Name(s):

Hard Maple, Sugar Maple,
Rock Maple

Scientific Name:

Acer Saccharum

Tree Size:

80-115 ft (30-40 m) Tall
2-3 ft (.6-1.0 m) Trunk Diameter

Janka Hardness:

1,450 lb_f (6,460 N)

Modulus of Rupture:

15,800 lb_f/in² (109.0 MPa)

Elastic Modulus:

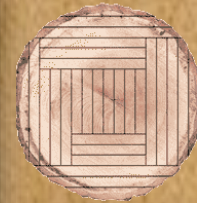
1,830,000 lb_f/in² (12.62 GPa)

Distribution Area:

Northeastern North America



Plain Sawn



Quarter Sawn



Raw



Sealed



Color/Appearance: In contrast to many other hardwoods, hard maple lumber typically utilizes its sapwood rather than the heartwood. The sapwood displays a spectrum of colors, ranging from almost white to an off-white cream shade, occasionally featuring hints of reddish or golden tones. The heartwood tends to exhibit a deeper reddish-brown hue. Birdseye maple, a distinctive pattern, is predominantly observed in hard maple, though it is occasionally found in other wood species. Additionally, hard maple can display captivating grain patterns, including curly or quilted variations.

Grain/Texture: The grain in hard maple is straight, accompanied by a fine to medium uniform texture and a moderate inherent luster.

Workability: Fairly easy to work with both hand and machine tools, though slightly more difficult than soft maple due to hard maple's higher density. Maple has a tendency to burn when being machined with high-speed cutters such as in a router. Turns, glues, and finishes well, though blotches can occur when staining, and a pre-conditioner, gel stain, or toner may be necessary to get an even color.

Also known as rock maple, the wood of hard maple can be rightfully regarded as the monarch within the Acer genus. It surpasses all other commercially available maple species in terms of strength, stiffness, hardness, and density.

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