WOOD IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Hickory

PARAMOUNT

Crafting Exquisite Woodwork Since 1984

Common Name(s):

Oregon Ash

Scientific Name:

Fraxinus latifolia

Tree Size:

65-80 ft (20-25 m) Tall 1-3 ft (.3-1.0 m) Trunk Diameter

Janka Hardness:

1,160 lb_f (5,160 N)

Modulus of Rupture:

12,700 lb_f/in² (87.6 MPa)

Elastic Modulus:

1,360,000 lb_f/in² (9.38 GPa)

Distribution Area:

Western North America





Color/Appearance: Hickory heartwood typically displays a light to medium brown color with a hint of red, while the sapwood is a lighter, yellowish brown. When boards showcase a contrast between the heartwood and sapwood, it results in a rustic look.

Grain/Texture: Hickory wood typically features a straight grain, occasionally displaying a wavy pattern, and possesses a medium texture.

Workability: Difficult to work, with tearout being common during ma chining operations if cutting edges are not kept sharp; the wood tends to

blunt cutting edges. Glues, stains, and finishes well. Responds well to steam bending.

Hickory stands out as one of the toughest and most robust woods indigenous to the United States. It boasts greater density, stiffness, and hardness on average compared to both White Oak and Hard Maple. This wood is frequently employed in applications where strength or resistance to shock is paramount.

The strength attributes of Hickory are significantly impacted by the arrangement of its growth rings. Broadly speaking, wood derived from faster-growing trees, featuring wider-spaced growth rings, tends to exhibit greater hardness, weight, and strength than wood from slower-growing trees with closely spaced rings.