

The Janka hardness test measures the hardness of wood. It involves measuring the force required to embed an 11.28mm (0.444in) steel ball into wood to half its diameter.

This method was chosen so that the result would leave an indentation 100mm² (0.16sqin) in size.

It is one of the best measures of the ability of a wood species to withstand denting and wear.

The higher the Janka Rating, the harder the timber is.

Species	Janka (kN)
Bamboo (strand w oven)	16.1
Grey Box	15.0
Ironbark	14.0
Red Mahogany	12.0
Turpentine	12.0
Spotted Gum	11.0
Brushbox	9.5
Blackbutt	9.1
Forest Reds	9.1
Sydney Blue Gum	9.0
Karri	9.0
Tallow wood	8.6
Merbau	8.6
Jarrah	8.5
Stringybark	8.1
Australian Beech	7.5
Flooded / Rose Gum	7.5
Northern Beech	7.5
Messmate	7.1
Bamboo (vertical)	6.6
Cypress Pine	6.1
New England Oak	6.1
American Oak	6.0
Bamboo (horizontal)	5.9
Tasmanian Oak	5.5
Victorian Ash	4.5
Baltic Pine	2.9
