

VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Connecticut's Hardwood Specialists — 10+ Years

Species Catalog

Complete Technical Data Sheets

8 Species · Specifications · Certifications · Installation Guidelines

valentinehardwood.com

SPECIES INDEX

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- All species available as solid hardwood (3/4") and engineered hardwood (1/2" or 3/8") unless noted.
 - All installation performed to NWFA guidelines by certified crews.
 - FSC-certified and Low-VOC finish options available for all applicable species.
 - Installation warranty: 2 years on all workmanship.
 - For specification support or custom orders, contact: valentinehardwood.com
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VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

White Oak

Quercus alba

The modern classic. Versatile, durable, timeless.

Origin: Eastern North America

Janka Hardness: 1,360 lbf

1,360 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Warm beige to
light gray**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Engineered
only**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

White Oak is the most specified hardwood species in North America today. Its fine, consistent grain and neutral warm-gray tone make it the ideal foundation for virtually any interior style — from modern minimalist to transitional and farmhouse. The species is notably harder and more moisture-resistant than Red Oak, making it

suitable for a wider range of applications. In 2025, White Oak wide plank in natural matte finish is the single most requested specification from architects and interior designers.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	White Oak
Latin name	Quercus alba
Origin	Eastern North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	1,360 lbf
Natural tone	Warm beige to light gray
Grain pattern	Straight to slightly wavy, with distinctive ray flecks
Available widths	3", 4", 5", 6", 7"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" & 3/8" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–9% (within 4% of subfloor)
Acclimation period	5–7 days at room temperature and humidity
Compatible subfloor types	Wood, concrete (engineered), or existing flooring
Finish options	Natural matte, stained (any tone), whitewashed, wire-brushed, oil-finished
Refinishable	Yes — up to 5–7 times (solid)
Radiant heat compatible	Engineered only — recommend floating or glue-down
Best applications	Living rooms, bedrooms, open-plan spaces, commercial projects
2025 trending specs	Wide plank (5"+), natural matte, herringbone pattern

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship

Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available
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INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 5–7 days at room temperature and humidity before installation.
 - Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–9% (within 4% of subfloor).
 - Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
 - All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
 - Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
 - Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.
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VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

Red Oak

Quercus rubra

America's original hardwood. Classic warmth, proven durability.

Origin: Eastern North America

Janka Hardness: 1,290 lbf

1,290 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Warm rose to
light tan with
pink
undertones**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Not
recommended**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

Red Oak has been the most installed hardwood species in the United States for over a century — and for good reason. Its rich grain pattern, warm pink undertones, and excellent workability make it a dependable choice for traditional and transitional interiors. Red Oak accepts stain beautifully, allowing for significant color customization. It remains the go-to species for sand-and-finish projects and for matching existing floors in renovation work.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	Red Oak
Latin name	Quercus rubra
Origin	Eastern North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	1,290 lbf
Natural tone	Warm rose to light tan with pink undertones
Grain pattern	Coarse, open grain with pronounced ray flecks
Available widths	2.25", 3", 4", 5"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–9% (within 4% of subfloor)
Acclimation period	5–7 days at room temperature and humidity
Compatible subfloor types	Wood, or existing flooring
Finish options	Natural, stained (warm tones recommended), oil-finished, semi-gloss
Refinishable	Yes — up to 5–7 times (solid)
Radiant heat compatible	Not recommended — limited dimensional stability
Best applications	Traditional homes, colonial styles, renovations matching existing floors
2025 trending specs	Classic strip installation, warm stain tones, sand-and-finish

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
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Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship
Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available

INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 5–7 days at room temperature and humidity before installation.
- Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–9% (within 4% of subfloor).
- Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
- All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
- Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
- Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.

VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

Walnut

Juglans nigra

Rich. Dark. Unmistakable. The premium choice.

Origin: Central and Eastern North America

Janka Hardness: 1,010 lbf

1,010 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Rich
chocolate
brown to dark
espresso**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Not
recommended
for solid**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

American Black Walnut is the undisputed premium choice in hardwood flooring. Its deep, lustrous chocolate-brown tones and unique grain figure make every installation a one-of-a-kind statement. Though slightly softer than oak, walnut develops a beautiful patina over time and responds exceptionally well to natural oil finishes. Specified frequently by interior designers for luxury residential projects, walnut floors consistently elevate the perceived value of any space. Wide plank live-sawn walnut is the leading edge of the premium market in 2025.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	Walnut
Latin name	Juglans nigra
Origin	Central and Eastern North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	1,010 lbf
Natural tone	Rich chocolate brown to dark espresso
Grain pattern	Straight to wavy with occasional curly figure
Available widths	3", 4", 5", 6", 7"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" & 3/8" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–9% (within 4% of subfloor)
Acclimation period	7–10 days — walnut is more sensitive to humidity changes
Compatible subfloor types	Wood, concrete (engineered)
Finish options	Natural oil (recommended), matte, satin — avoid heavy staining
Refinishable	Yes — 3–5 times (softer species, sand with care)
Radiant heat compatible	Not recommended for solid — engineered only
Best applications	High-end residential, executive offices, dining rooms, master bedrooms
2025 trending specs	Natural oil finish, wide plank, live-sawn cut for maximum figure

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
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Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship
Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available

INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 7–10 days — walnut is more sensitive to humidity changes before installation.
 - Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–9% (within 4% of subfloor).
 - Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
 - All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
 - Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
 - Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.
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VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

Hard Maple

Acer saccharum

The hardest domestic species. Clean, bright, modern.

Origin: North America — Great Lakes region

Janka Hardness: 1,450 lbf

1,450 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Creamy white
to light tan**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Not
recommended**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

Hard Maple is the toughest domestic hardwood species available, making it the preferred choice for commercial applications and high-traffic residential spaces. Its extremely fine, uniform grain and pale creamy tone give interiors a clean, modern feeling that pairs beautifully with Scandinavian, minimalist, and contemporary design

styles. Maple requires careful moisture management during installation but rewards with exceptional long-term performance. Whitewashed maple has seen significant growth in specification among designers working in coastal and light-toned interior palettes.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	Hard Maple
Latin name	Acer saccharum
Origin	North America — Great Lakes region
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	1,450 lbf
Natural tone	Creamy white to light tan
Grain pattern	Fine, uniform, subtle — occasional birdseye or curly figure
Available widths	2.25", 3", 4", 5"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–8% — maple is sensitive to moisture variations
Acclimation period	7–10 days — critical for maple to avoid gapping
Compatible subfloor types	Wood (preferred) — avoid concrete for solid
Finish options	Natural matte, whitewash, light stain — dark stains may blotch
Refinishable	Yes — up to 5–7 times (solid)
Radiant heat compatible	Not recommended
Best applications	Contemporary interiors, gyms, commercial spaces, Scandinavian style
2025 trending specs	Whitewashed finish, minimalist spaces, sports flooring

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship

Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available
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INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 7–10 days — critical for maple to avoid gapping before installation.
 - Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–8% — maple is sensitive to moisture variations.
 - Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
 - All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
 - Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
 - Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.
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VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

Hickory

Carya spp.

Maximum hardness. Maximum character. Built for real life.

Origin: North America

Janka Hardness: 1,820 lbf

1,820 lbf

JANKA RATING

High contrast

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Engineered
only**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

Hickory is the hardest and most impact-resistant domestic hardwood species in North America — harder than oak, maple, or walnut. Its dramatic color variation, from pale cream to deep reddish-brown on the same plank, gives hickory floors a bold, natural character that is completely unlike any other species. Hickory is the go-to

choice for clients who want floors that can handle real family life without hiding it. Wire-brushed and hand-scraped hickory is among the fastest-growing segments of the market in 2025.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	Hickory
Latin name	Carya spp.
Origin	North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	1,820 lbf
Natural tone	High contrast — pale cream to deep reddish-brown on same board
Grain pattern	Coarse, irregular — strong visual variation and character
Available widths	3", 4", 5"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–9% (within 4% of subfloor)
Acclimation period	5–7 days
Compatible subfloor types	Wood, concrete (engineered)
Finish options	Natural, light stain, wire-brushed — let the character show
Refinishable	Yes — 3–5 times (hardness makes sanding more labor-intensive)
Radiant heat compatible	Engineered only
Best applications	Rustic, farmhouse, lodge-style interiors, high-traffic family homes
2025 trending specs	Wire-brushed, hand-scraped, character-grade selection

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship

Certifications	NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available
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INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 5–7 days before installation.
 - Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–9% (within 4% of subfloor).
 - Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
 - All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
 - Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
 - Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.
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VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

White Ash

Fraxinus americana

Bold grain. Contemporary tone. The designer's new favorite.

Origin: Eastern North America

Janka Hardness: 1,320 lbf

1,320 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Light beige to
pale tan with
subtle gray
undertones**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Engineered
only**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

White Ash has emerged as one of the most exciting species in the contemporary flooring market. Its bold, open grain — more dramatic than oak — combined with light, airy tones makes it the perfect canvas for designers working in Japandi, coastal, and Scandinavian aesthetics. Ash accepts whitewash and light gray stains exceptionally well, creating the clean, textured look that dominates high-end residential design in 2025. Comparable in hardness to White Oak, Ash offers strong performance with a distinctly more expressive visual character.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	White Ash
Latin name	Fraxinus americana
Origin	Eastern North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	1,320 lbf
Natural tone	Light beige to pale tan with subtle gray undertones
Grain pattern	Straight, pronounced, bold — more expressive than oak
Available widths	3", 4", 5", 6"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" & 3/8" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–9% (within 4% of subfloor)
Acclimation period	5–7 days at room temperature and humidity
Compatible subfloor types	Wood, concrete (engineered)
Finish options	Natural matte, whitewash, light gray stain, wire-brushed
Refinishable	Yes — up to 5–7 times (solid)
Radiant heat compatible	Engineered only
Best applications	Contemporary, Japandi, coastal, Scandinavian interiors
2025 trending specs	Whitewashed finish, wire-brushed texture, wide plank

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
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Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship
Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available

INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 5–7 days at room temperature and humidity before installation.
- Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–9% (within 4% of subfloor).
- Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
- All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
- Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
- Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.

VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

American Cherry

Prunus serotina

Warm reddish elegance. Gets more beautiful with age.

Origin: Eastern North America

Janka Hardness: 950 lbf

950 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Light
pinkish-brown**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Not
recommended**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

American Cherry is one of the most distinctive and prized hardwood species in North America, known for a unique quality no other species shares: it gets more beautiful over time. When exposed to light, Cherry's initial light pinkish-brown tone deepens into a rich, lustrous reddish-brown that develops into a one-of-a-kind patina

unique to each installation. Cherry is particularly popular in traditional New England homes and colonial-style architecture — making it especially relevant for Connecticut projects. Always specify natural finish to allow the wood's natural evolution.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	American Cherry
Latin name	Prunus serotina
Origin	Eastern North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	950 lbf
Natural tone	Light pinkish-brown — deepens to rich reddish-brown over time
Grain pattern	Fine, straight to slightly wavy — smooth, satiny surface
Available widths	3", 4", 5"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–9% (within 4% of subfloor)
Acclimation period	5–7 days — protect from direct sunlight during acclimation
Compatible subfloor types	Wood (preferred)
Finish options	Natural (strongly recommended) — staining may appear blotchy
Refinishable	Yes — 3–5 times (softer species — use care)
Radiant heat compatible	Not recommended
Best applications	Traditional, colonial, transitional interiors — dining rooms, libraries
2025 trending specs	Natural finish allowing patina to develop, traditional installations

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship

Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available
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INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 5–7 days — protect from direct sunlight during acclimation before installation.
 - Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–9% (within 4% of subfloor).
 - Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
 - All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
 - Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
 - Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.
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VALENTINE HARDWOOD FLOORING

Species Data Sheet

Douglas Fir

Pseudotsuga menziesii

Rustic character. Historic roots. Uniquely American.

Origin: Western North America

Janka Hardness: 660 lbf

660 lbf

JANKA RATING

**Golden yellow
to reddish-orange
with
strong warm
undertones**

TONE

Yes

REFINISHABLE

**Not
recommended**

RADIANT HEAT

OVERVIEW

Douglas Fir carries a unique position in the American hardwood market — it is the species most associated with historic New England homes, barns, and pre-war buildings. For renovation projects in Connecticut, Douglas Fir is frequently the species already present in the home, making it essential for matching repairs and extensions. Its warm golden-orange tones and dramatic grain pattern give spaces an undeniable authenticity and character. While softer than the oak family, Douglas Fir is a premium choice for clients seeking the reclaimed-wood aesthetic with domestically sourced material.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

PROPERTY	SPECIFICATION
Species	Douglas Fir
Latin name	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
Origin	Western North America
Janka Hardness (ASTM D-143)	660 lbf
Natural tone	Golden yellow to reddish-orange with strong warm undertones
Grain pattern	Pronounced, dramatic — tight rings in old growth, wide in new growth
Available widths	3", 4", 5", 6"
Available thickness	3/4" (solid) · 1/2" (engineered)
Moisture content at sale	6–9%
Required moisture for install	6–8% — softwood, more sensitive to moisture
Acclimation period	7–10 days — critical in New England humidity
Compatible subfloor types	Wood (preferred) — nail-down installation recommended
Finish options	Natural oil, matte, light stain — avoid dark stains
Refinishable	Yes — 3–4 times (softer species — use fine-grit sanding)
Radiant heat compatible	Not recommended
Best applications	Historic renovations, rustic/farmhouse, reclaimed aesthetic
2025 trending specs	Reclaimed-look wide plank, hand-scraped finish, historic restorations

WARRANTY & CERTIFICATIONS

ITEM	DETAILS
Material warranty	25 years (pre-finished) · Lifetime (site-finished solid)
Installation warranty	2 years on installation workmanship
Certifications	FSC Certified · NWFA Guidelines · Low-VOC Finishes Available

INSTALLATION NOTES

- Acclimate material for 7–10 days — critical in New England humidity before installation.
- Verify subfloor moisture is within range before proceeding: 6–8% — softwood, more sensitive to moisture.
- Do not install over subfloors with moisture readings outside accepted range.
- All installation to be performed per NWFA Installation Guidelines.
- Any deviation from specified material requires written approval before proceeding.
- Post-installation documentation provided upon project completion.