



Wood Characteristics and Finish Awareness

Wood Species



Ash

The sapwood is light-colored to nearly white and the heartwood varies from grayish or light brown, to pale yellow streaked with brown. The wood is generally straight-grained with a coarse uniform texture.



Red Oak

The sapwood of red oak is white to light brown and the heartwood varies from a light pink to a dark reddish brown. Oaks have a very open grain pattern. Occasionally, small pink pin knots will be present.



Maple

Maple varies in color from nearly white to yellow, pink, light purple and slightly reddish brown. The heartwood varies from light to dark reddish brown, sometimes streaked with darker mineral colors. Maple tends to yellow slightly with age. The wood is usually described as straight, closed grained.



Important Product and Finish Advisories

Finishes are used that enhance the natural beauty of wood. Extra care is taken to assure a uniform finish. Like a fingerprint, characteristic differences in color and grain are produced by nature in every tree. These variations are what create the beauty in our hardwood products. These variations will cause variation in the finish, even though identical finishing processes are applied. Also as hardwoods age the color and characteristics will change. White painted face frames will eventually have visible seam lines at the joint area and stained hardwood species will darken or lighten with time. Furthermore, sunlight, smoke, household cleaners and other environmental conditions can also affect the color of the cabinetry in the same way.