

CHARACTERISTICS OF HICKORY

Hickory is also called IRONWOOD in Canada and walnut elsewhere. This wood is not well known due to its rarity. It grows in northeastern North America, all the way to Quebec and Ontario where the smallest are. This variety generally grows sporadically among other tree species. The numerous qualities of this wood are exceptional, starting with its legendary hardness, from which it gets its name "ironwood." It is 30% harder than white oak or sugar maple, making it by far the hardest wood in North America.

Hickory is resistant to both humidity and water, allowing it to counter mold. Its color is remarkable due to its great variations, going from light cream to deep brown. Note that once the floor is installed, the deep brown quickly pales due to light exposure. The variation in color will diminish by 40% over a period of 6 to 12 months, stabilizing afterwards. Its grain is less noticeable than oak, but more than maple. It does not resemble any other woodgrain, making it an excellent choice for those who consider oak to be too grained and maple not enough.

It is important to note that hickory is more susceptible to cracks and splits than other wood varieties due to its hardness. It is natural for them to appear in this very hard wood during dry periods of winter. They are generally localized to a small percentage of disparate floorboards.