

WOODS USED IN FURNITURE

ASH (white ash):

With a pale wood color, ash is a tough hardwood. It is extremely flexible without losing its strength, so it is often found in bent and curved furniture.

BIRCH (yellow birch):

This is a common hardwood used in all types of furniture. Birch is light yellow-brown in color, and similar in color and grain to maple.

CEDAR:

A softwood that is mostly used in closets, armoires, chests, and dressers, cedar is a light reddish color with lighter streaks and knots. Cedar has a distinctive scent and is effective in repelling insects, especially moths.

CHERRY:

Often used in fine furniture, cherry is an expensive hardwood. It takes stains and finishes easily and ages beautifully.

MAHOGANY:

As one of the most treasured woods, mahogany is a mainstay in fine furniture. This expensive wood has a reddish-brown to deep red coloring.

MAPLE:

Maple is a dense, attractive hardwood that's often used in furniture and is the most common wood used in butcher blocks. Maple is a light brown color with a reddish cast.

OAK:

Commonly used in furniture, oak has two main variations: red and white. White oak is gray-brown in color, while red oak has a reddish cast with a gray-brown color. Because of its strength and beautiful grain, oak is often used in solid wood furniture and veneers.

PECAN:

Used often in dining furniture, pecan is a strong hardwood. It is also commonly found in veneers. Pecan has a pronounced grain, and the color ranges from pale brown to reddish brown.

PINE:

The primary wood used in unfinished furniture, the light color of pine takes stains well, and therefore can take on many colors when stained or painted. Pine often has knots and clearly marked ring growths creating a recognizable grain.

TEAK:

Weather-resistant teak is commonly used for outdoor furniture like chaises and patio dining sets, as well as in shower accents like mats and stools. The color of teak varies from a golden brown to a dark brown. It is an expensive wood.

WALNUT:

Traditionally used in fine furniture (like cabinets), expensive walnut is also often used in veneers. Walnut is chocolate brown with dark or purplish streaks.

WENGE:

This expensive, cappuccino-colored hardwood is often used in modern décor. Wenge is dark brown to black with black graining.