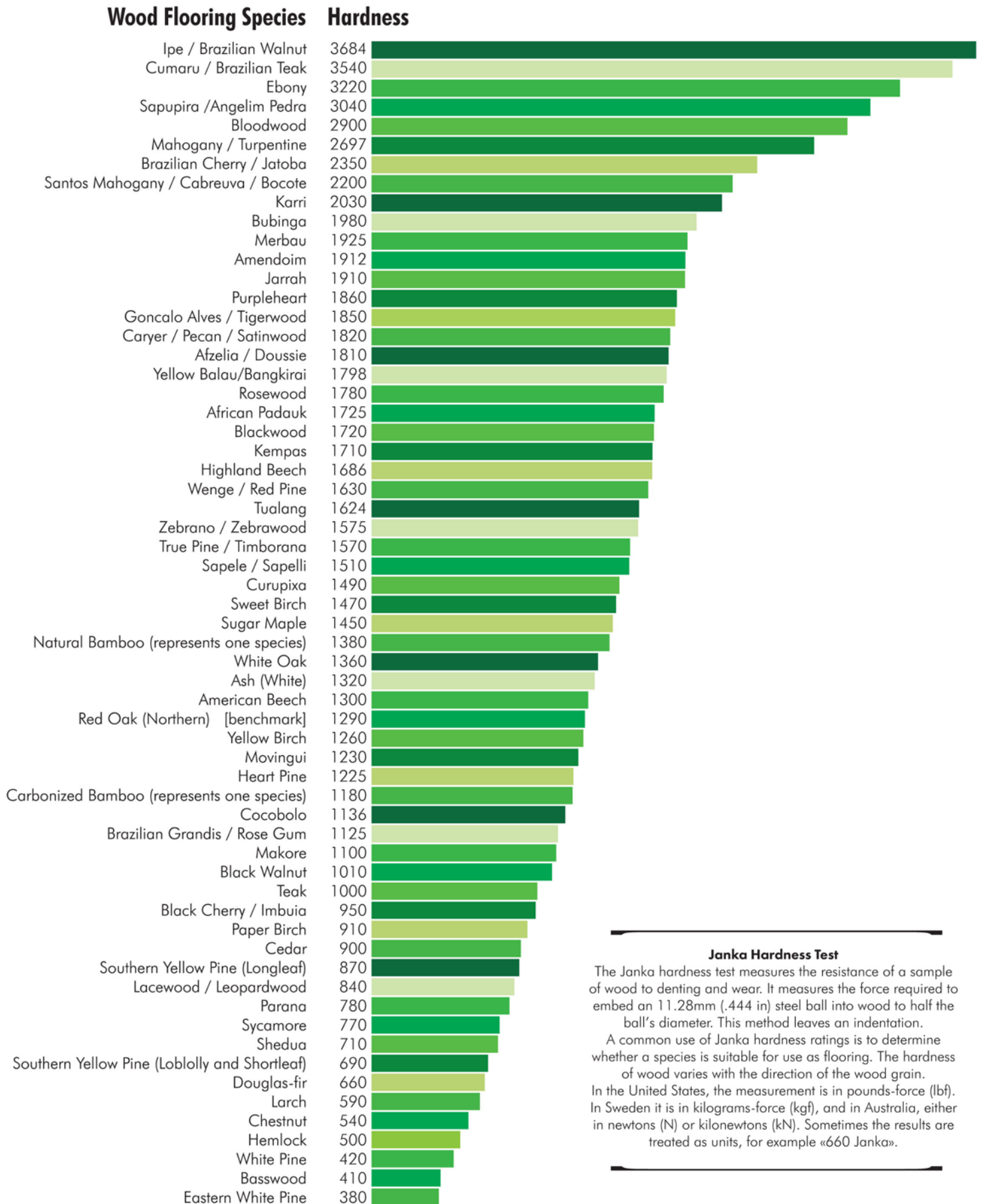


# Janka Hardness Test



## Janka Hardness Test

The Janka hardness test measures the resistance of a sample of wood to denting and wear. It measures the force required to embed an 11.28mm (.444 in) steel ball into wood to half the ball's diameter. This method leaves an indentation.

A common use of Janka hardness ratings is to determine whether a species is suitable for use as flooring. The hardness of wood varies with the direction of the wood grain. In the United States, the measurement is in pounds-force (lbf). In Sweden it is in kilograms-force (kgf), and in Australia, either in newtons (N) or kilonewtons (kN). Sometimes the results are treated as units, for example «660 Janka».