

Earth Bamboo® Hardness

Janka Hardness Test

The Janka hardness test is a measure of the hardness of wood. The test measures the force required to push a steel ball with a diameter of 11.28mm (0.444 inches) into the wood to a depth of half the ball's diameter.

In Australia the most commonly reported measure is quoted in kilo newtons (kN), where 1kN = 100kg, and the most common use of the Janka hardness rating is to determine whether a species is suitable for use as a flooring timber. The higher the number the harder the species is, therefore the Janka hardness test is ideal for determining how a floor will resist dents and wear.

A hardness in excess of 5.0kN is generally considered suitable for use as a flooring timber. It should be noted that with the advancement in floor coating materials (such as adding Aluminium Oxide to top coats) that the hardness ratings can, in some instances, be much higher than those stated below. The following table however provides a good guide.

