

# The Brinell Hardness Test

The Brinell Test\* is an industry standard test that reflects the PSI tolerance of a surface - in our case, a floor. A higher score reflects a harder floor.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Origin</b>	<b>Hardness Rating</b>	<b>-vs- White Oak</b>
Ash	Sweden	4.0	105%
Beech	Sweden	3.8	103%
Birch	Sweden	2.6	68%
Brazilian Cherry	Brazil	7.0	185%
American Cherry	N. America	3.6	95%
Maple	N. America	4.8	126%
Jarrah	Australia	4.7	123%
Merbau	Malaysia	4.9	128%
Pine	Sweden	1.6	42%
Red Oak	Europe	3.8	103%
Walnut	N. America	3.4	89%
White Oak	Sweden	3.7	-

\* The test measures the effect of pressing a small steel ball (with a diameter of 10mm) similar to high-heels or furniture legs, into the flooring with 100KN (220.5 lbs) of fixed force. More than 50 impressions are made on several samples of the wood. The diameter and depth of the indentations are carefully measured to determine the hardness. This testing method is the most relevant and realistic method to determine surface hardness of wood floors.