

THE CHARACTER OF TREES

Like people, each tree has a different character. Nature molds the tree with differences in color and grain....irregularities that create the beauty and interesting variations in the world's finest woods.

Softwood versus Hardwood

Woods may be classified as being either softwood or hardwood. However, those terms are not a strict indicator of the relative hardness of the wood itself. Softwoods are those which are derived from the harvesting of coniferous trees (gymnosperms), which are more often known as evergreen trees. These trees are ones which usually have needles and cones as opposed to leaves. Softwood lumber tends to be lighter and has a lower density than hardwood, owing from the fact that these trees that exhibit a higher rate of growth than hardwood trees. The high rate of growth contributes to the abundant supply, with most of the processed timber coming from softwoods. They tend to have a straighter grain, making these woods suitable for use in construction framing lumber and building components such as windows and doors. Some of the most commonly used softwoods that are created into lumber include:

- Cedar both red and yellow most commonly
- Fir often called Douglas Fir
- Pine
- Redwood
- Spruce

By contrast, hardwoods come from angiosperms (flowering trees which are usually broad-leaved), which lose their leaves in the fall and winter seasons. These trees contain vessels that serve as a transport mechanism for water, and exhibit pores on their surface which results in more intricate and interesting looking grains patterns in these woods, depending on the pore size. This characteristic makes them the choice woods for use in woodworking. Hardwood trees are slower growing than softwoods, which contributes to their higher density, making these woods stronger

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This property lends to their use in furniture making, cabinetry, flooring, and other construction applications where longevity of service is of primary importance. Hardwood lumber is generally more expensive than softwood lumber, driven by a more limited supply from the slower rate of tree growth and the value of the strength of the material. Common hardwood lumber products include:

Alder

Ash including white ash

Beech

Birch

Cherry

Hickory

Mahogany

Maple

Oak, including red and white varieties

Poplar

Teak

Walnut

Most species have relatively uniform grain patterns, and coloration. This can vary slightly between different trees from the same species, so we do our best to select boards from the same lumber batch as possible. Differences in texture, grain, density, and other factors also effect the final appearance after the catalyzed lacquer finish cures.

We mention this because it is impossible to guarantee an exact match between two pieces of wood on our products. It's also very difficult to match woods in interior of homes because most woods change subtly as they age. With that being said, typically most woods do not see extreme differences across the species and we also use select and better grades of softwoods and hardwoods that often times have less variation than lesser grades.

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We do our best to select the wood for each case from the same tree; however, sometimes it will come from several trees. Some variations that might be apparent are slight mineral streaks in the wood that will show through the finish.

With some species, glueing up of smaller width boards to get to the finished width for production is necessary. Our builder attempts to match color, patterns, and grain characteristics as closely as possible. Overall, the differences in are subtle and not considered flaws, but variations that make each ClimaStand unique. A guarantee we make is that no wood is used with checks, extreme bowing, cupping, or other defects regardless if it's a perfect match.

Lastly, the wood used in your Acoustic Remedy product is sustainably harvested, including many species within 50 miles of the Amish shop where the product is made. Additionally, all the exotic species from Africa, South America, and elsewhere are certified FSC.

To learn more about how about our sustainability approach and explore the vast wood catalog we offer, please visit the following pages on our website:

- Sustainability At Our Core: https://www.acousticremedycases.com/pages/sustainability-at-our-core
- Wood Catalog: https://www.acousticremedycases.com/pages/wood-catalog

