

Wood Decking Material Comparison

Type	Appearance	Hardness (Janka Scale)* lbs.	Bending Strength psi	Decay resistance
Ipe	Sometimes called "Ironwood", Ipe is an extremely dense, tight grained wood. Generally deep rich brown with some pieces displaying red and amber hues	3,680	22,560	Highest rating for insect (termite) and decay resistance
Massaranduba	Also Known as Brazilian Redwood, Massaranduba has a consistant reddish color wood with a fine straight grain and is nearly blemished free.	3,190	17,310	Highest rating for insect (termite) and decay resistance
Teak	Very dense, straight-grained hardwood with a high natural oil content. Deep rich brown with some pieces displaying red and amber hues	1,000	10,975	Generally very resistant to decay, however, different grades will vary greatly
Pressure Treated Pine	Very pronounced grain. Dusty yellow-green color due to the chemical treatment	870	14,500	Chromated copper arsenate in the wood offers excellent decay resistance, but with potential health and environmental risks.
Douglas Fir	Light reddish brown wood with generally straight grain	660	12,400	Not naturally resistant to decay Continued maintenance of sealer or paint is recommended.
Redwood	Several grades available that vary considerably in appearance and quality. Usually straight grained with a fine, even texture. Color varies from cherry-red to dark reddish-brown.	480	10,000	Higher grades more durable than most common woods in use. Resistant to decay, but relatively soft and quick to weather.

*Janka Scale

The **Janka** hardness is a measurement of the force necessary to embed a .444-inch steel ball to half its diameter in wood, and is the industry standard for gauging a wood product's resistance to wear and denting.