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## NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF WOOD

### Cherry

Cherry wood varies in color from white to red and to deep rich brown with small gum pockets, streaks, and pin knots. In time, cherry ages as it reacts to light and begins to darken. Dark streaks will turn dark reddish brown and white areas can range from yellow to brown. These changes are a natural part of cherry cabinetry.

### Hickory

Hickory wood is an open grain wood that is known for a wide variation of color. In many cases the wood will range in hues from white to chocolate brown even within the same door. Hickory contains random knots and mineral streaks which add character. A complete project will show these variations of color. These characteristics will be more noticeable in lighter finishes.

### Alder

Alder is a medium density hardwood that features a color range of light brown with reddish or peach hues. Alder will have characteristics of small sound knots, modular rays, curly grain, pin holes, and mineral streaks. As alder ages and reacts to light it will mellow. Alder has both soft and hard wood characteristics so you can see dark & light areas due to the difference in stain absorption.

### Maple & Painted Maple

Maple is a closed grain hard wood that varies in color from white to cream to light brown, it may exhibit small black dots, curly grain and can contain mineral streaks. Maple has a uniform grain easily disguised by medium and dark stains.

### Quarter Sawn White Oak

Quarter Sawn Oak will have unique patterns produced when the log is quartered using the heart as the edge rather than the center. Quarter Sawn Wood will have rays or flecks which give the appearance of tiger stripes.

### Red Oak

Red Oak is a hard, heavy wood with medium bending, stiffness & high crushing strength. The heartwood is pinkish to reddish brown in color and similar in general appearance to white, although red oak has a slightly less pronounced figure due to the smaller rays. This wood is mostly straight grained with coarse texture.

### White Oak

White Oak is a hard & heavy wood with medium bending & crushing strength. It is low in stiffness & has a great wear resistance. Light to dark brown in color, mostly straight grained with medium to course texture. This wood has longer rays than red oak and has more figure.