

Each type of wood has its own characteristics. Even within the same tree, wood can vary due to natural occurrences such as moisture and mineral deposits. A tree's individual grain, density and color add to the distinct appearance of each piece of wood giving it both beauty and an interesting finish.

When wood is stained it can affect each piece differently. Natural finishes are clear and highlight the wood's grain and color variances. Customers should feel comfortable with these variations and also take into consideration the wood's characteristics before choosing a finish. A large expanse of cabinets may appear differently than a sample door or photograph. These natural variances are inherent in the wood and cannot be considered a reason for replacement or deemed defective workmanship.

Over time, changes in cabinet finish may occur due to sunlight, smoke, or chemicals. Cabinets that are purchased at a later date may not match cabinets purchased earlier. Continental Cabinets, Inc. reserves the right to modify and enhance its finishes as part of our manufacturing process; therefore, finishes may vary over time.

Great American Hardwood Characteristics

Botanical, broad leaves fruit or nut producing, generally dormant in winter.

Red Oak

- Latin *Quercus* – “a fine tree”
- Sapwood is white to pinkish light brown
- Heartwood is usually a beautiful warm pale brown with reddish tint
- Straight grained with course texture to openly porous with dramatic grain patterns
- Possible mineral deposits ranging from green, yellow and even black streaks
- Very hard and strong
- One of the most popular hardwoods used in woodworking

Soft White Maple

- Latin *Acer saccharinum*
- Sapwood white creamy color to grayish color
- Heartwood varies from cream to brownish color
- Close-grain and fine textured
- Grain is usually uniform but it can be wavy
- Moderately heavy, hard and strong wood

Hickory & Pecan

- Latin *Carya*
- Hardest, heaviest strongest American wood, known for strength
- Sapwood white with fine brown lines
- Heartwood pale to deep brown
- Fine uniform grain
- Known for its wild, irregular grain patterns and dramatic color variations
- Contains random mineral streaks and deposits
- Wood characteristics make each hickory kitchen truly unique