

## Red Oak – Flat Sawn

### Material Attributes

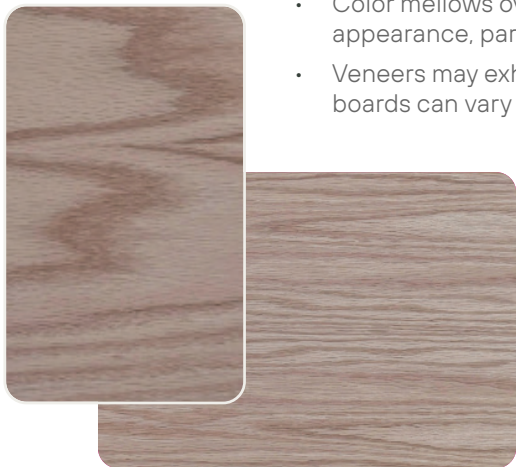
- A heavy, hard, strong, and stiff hardwood with an open grain and pronounced coarse texture with visible pores that vary significantly across different pieces of wood and different formats.
- Higher tactility, due to its open grain, though veneers typically are more smooth.

### Grain Characteristics

- Distinctive grain pattern with straight narrow rows, cathedraling (arches and valleys), points, and waves, which can vary greatly not only from component to component, but within an individual piece of Red Oak. Rays and flecks are common, adding a three-dimensional quality.
- Occasional dark brown or black mineral streaks, small checks, and pin knots naturally occur, adding to its character and authenticity. These are not considered defects.
- Veneers typically display less variation and depth than solid wood, which often showcases more grain characteristics.

### Color

- Ranges from light tan to medium reddish brown, often with a pinkish undertone.
- Naturally present rays - thin bands of cells running perpendicular to the grain - are lighter-colored, while characteristic flecks - small, irregular patches - are typically darker than the wood surrounding them.



- Color mellows over time with exposure to light, resulting in a richer reddish-brown or amber appearance, particularly noticeable with lighter stains.
- Veneers may exhibit more uniform color due to how they are created, where thicker, solid boards can vary significantly from piece to piece. Veneers typically mellow more quickly than solid wood, which can lead to noticeable color differences between door center panels and frames, as well as other cabinetry components. This variation is a natural characteristic of using different cuts of wood and is not considered a defect.

### Hardness and Durability

- With a Janka hardness rating of 1290, Red Oak is known for excellent durability.



## Finishing Properties

- Accepts stain beautifully, enhancing its grain and color variation and adding depth.
- Its open grain and pores create noticeable color differences when finished, making the grain patterns appear more dramatic.
- Stained veneers may exhibit more color uniformity due to their consistent grain pattern. Veneers may absorb stain to a lesser degree, resulting in a more subdued appearance.
- An excellent candidate for chalking and glazing, as these secondary finishes accentuate its grain.
- Accepts paint finishes well, though its open, variable grain can result in a varied appearance and texture, even under thicker finishes. Some grain may be concealed, while other parts remain partially visible.
- Like all hardwoods, painted Red Oak expands and contracts with humidity and temperature changes, which can lead to hairline fractures at joints—this is a normal characteristic of real wood and indicates its authenticity.

## Aesthetic Qualities

- Red Oak combines strength, natural beauty, and affordability, making it a desirable material for cabinetry.
- For those who value the look of real wood paired with contemporary stains and urban country paint palettes, Flat Cut Red Oak—with its dramatic grain pattern—makes a great choice.
- Popular rural or antique design aesthetics are easily achieved by applying glazes and chalking to Red Oak door styles.

