Hardwoods

Hardwoods come from deciduous or broad-leafed trees. They are generally slow growing which tends to make them harder but more expensive. Please note though that not all hardwoods are hard, Balsa which is very soft and is often used for model planes is in fact a balsa wood! Hardwoods are sold by the cubic metre then this is sawn to the size the customer requires. Some timber is machined into many sections called mouldings for example, dowel, beading, etc.

Hardwoods properties:
- Hardwoods are usually have broad leaves.
- Hardwoods come from deciduous or broad-leafed trees.
- Hardwoods are special as they are deciduous this means they lose their leaves.
- You can distinguish hardwoods by the structure of the wood grain.
- Hardwoods grow slower than softwoods so they are more expensive.
- Hardwoods include Ash, Beech, Oak, Balsa, Teak and Mahogany.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hardwood types</th>
<th>Grain image</th>
<th>Harwood uses</th>
<th>Example product</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beech</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Beech image" /></td>
<td>Used for furniture, toys, tool handles. Can be steam bent.</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Beech example" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Oak image" /></td>
<td>Used for high class furniture, boats, beams used in buildings, veneers.</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Oak example" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahogany</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Mahogany image" /></td>
<td>Used for expensive indoor furniture, shop fittings, bars, veneers.</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Mahogany example" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teak</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Teak image" /></td>
<td>Used for outdoor furniture, boat building, laboratory furniture and equipment.</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Teak example" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hardwoods

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<tr>
<th>Balsa</th>
<th>Used for light work such as model making and model airplane construction.</th>
</tr>
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</table>

Balsa - is a pale white to gray. It has a distinct velvety feel. It has exceptional strength to weight properties. It is the lightest and softest wood on the market. A hardwood.

Memory tip: Remember BAD HOTEL!
B - Balsa
A - Ash
D - Deciduous
H - Hardwood
O - Oak
T - Teak
E - Expensive
L - Loses leaves

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Mr DT says 'Read the text above and then answer these questions below'. Write your answers on a sheet of paper, don't forget to write your name on the sheet!:

1. Note down the hardwood properties in your own words?
2. What trees do hardwoods come from?
3. What is special about deciduous trees?
4. Why are hardwoods expensive?
5. What is beech normally used for?
6. What is oak normally used for?
7. Why is teak good for outdoor furniture?
8. Why is balsa wood normally used to make model planes?