

### GRADING FOR SOLID HARDWOOD UNFINISHED

Please keep in mind that these guidelines are established to produce consistency in the manufacturing of these products. There will be some variation from supplier to supplier. Unfinished flooring is graded with the understanding that a professional installer will be contracted for actual Job-site installation and finishing!

#### 1. Select Grade Red & White Oak

Average Length 36" - 42"

A flooring product with balanced coloration variations produced by differences of natural heartwood and sapwood, including the following characters:

- Unlimited sound sapwood
- Slight imperfections in milling
- Small tight knots every 3' on average.
- Pin worm holes
- Burls and a reasonable amount of slightly open checks
- Brown streaks should not extend the entire length of a piece.
- Slight imperfections in lace work (torn grain) admitted.
- An intermittent, brown machine burn across the face admitted.
- Small quantity of bark on the back or sides admitted.
- Admits pieces with partially missing tongue.
- Spot filling is generally required for open characters.

#### 2. #1 Common - Red Oak & White Oak

Average Length 30" - 33"

A flooring product which contains prominent variations in coloration and varying characters, including the following:

- Open characters, such as checks and knot holes are admitted, but must be sound and readily fill.
- Minor imperfections in machining permitted.
- Sticker stain is admitted.
- Worm holes, including Flag worm holes (but not Grub worm holes)
- Heavy streaks and dark color heartwood
- Checks and knot holes
- Occasional dark machine burn across the face not exceeding 1/2" wide,
- Admits pieces with 1/4 tongue
- Broken knots up to 1/2" in diameter
- Splits extending through the piece

### 3. #2 Common - Red Oak & White Oak

Average Length Will Vary.

A flooring product with all sound natural variations and manufacturing imperfections, pronounced character and contrasting appearance including the following:

- Knot holes and open characters which will readily fill are admitted
- Dark machine burns up to 3/64" allowed
- Pieces with missing tongue allowed
- Advanced rot, large holes and similar unsound defects are not allowed.

Due to our diverse product mix from time to time we will offer mixed grades including:

- #2 common and better (40% number 2" common, 45 % #1 common and 15% select).
- #1 common and better (60% #1 common, 40% select).

### 4. Euro Character - Red Oak and White Oak

Average Length - 45" - 50"

Wide variation in both color & natural characters consisting of a mixture of all grades, allowing for a floor with longer planks. Purpose is to draw focus away from floor down to the individual planks' characteristics. All characteristics must be sound, including the following:

- Knots can be unlimited in size and number, but must be sound and not contain any open knots on the edge of the plank.
- Checks 1/16" and less in width.
- Edge Defects the thickness of which must not extend through the wear surface.
- Machine Burns every 3'.
- Unlimited sapwood and sapwood stain.
- Heavy streaks, and prominent discoloration.
- Admits pieces with ¼ tongue.
- Unlimited flag, pin, and shot worm holes.
- Unlimited amount of saw marks 1/16" or less in depth.
- Rot, but excluding rot where surface is softer than surrounding wood.

### 5. Euro Character - Hickory & Character - Hickory

Average Length - 45" - 50"

Wide variation in both color & natural characters consisting of a mixture of the grades above, allowing for a floor with longer planks. Purpose is to draw focus away from floor down to the individual planks' characteristics. All characteristics must be sound, including the following:

- Knots can be unlimited in size and number, but must be sound.
- Unlimited bark pockets, but must be same hardness as surrounding wood.
- Checks.
- Edge Defects that must not extend through the wear surface.
- Machine Burns every 3'.

- Unlimited sapwood.
- Scant Thickness 20" in length and less not exceeding every five feet. Wane must not extend up into the tongue and/or groove.
- Admits pieces with ¼ tongue.
- Unlimited flag, pin, and shot worm holes.
- Unlimited amount of saw marks 1/16" or less in depth.
- Rot, but excluding rot where surface is softer than surrounding wood.

### 6. Select Grade - American Walnut

Average Length - 30"

A flooring product manufactured to exhibit the color variations, swirls, small burls and pin knots that typify the beauty of Walnut, including the following characters:

- Natural color variation found in heartwood and steamed dark sapwood
- Unlimited burls
- Small sound knot 3/8" diameter every 2' allowed
- Contained in 6" boards one sound knot 5/8" allowed every 2'
- Check no more than 1/2" allowed every foot.
- One small edge defect per 2'.
- Pin worm holes 2 to every 1' allowed.
- Some Streaking allowed
- One light brown machine burn per 3' allowed
- Admits pieces with ½ tongue.
- Spot filling is generally required for open characters.

### 7. Natural Grade - American Walnut

### 8. Character Grade - American Walnut

Average Length - 48"

A flooring product manufactured to highlight nearly all the naturally occurring characteristics of Walnut, including reasonably sized knots, worm holes, and streaks. Not overwhelmed by Sapwood, including the following characters:

- Sound natural variations.
- Unlimited sound knots up to ½ the face width.
- Numerous checks, All must be fillable and not extend through the piece or to its edge.
- May contain unlimited sapwood, sapwood may be stained, blotched or speckled.
- May have heavy streaks.
- Angled grub worm holes and all must be fillable.
- Dark machine burns allowed.
- Torn grain that must be able to retain filler.
- End splits allowed but not extending through the piece.

### 9. First Grade - Hard Maple

Average Length - 3 1/4" - 27", 5" - 48"

1st Grade: A very clean grade with consistent color and the least character among the different grades. Although more consistent in color than the lower grades, it is expected to display some presence of natural character, but still a very clean look overall.

### 10. Second Grade - Hard Maple

Average Length - 3 1/4" - 27", 5" - 48"

2nd Grade: This grade starts to show nature's character marks, such as knots, mineral streaking, color/grain variation. This grade is very casual, and is great for all types of home and business decors.

### 11. Third Grade - Hard Maple

Average Length - 3 1/4" - 27", 5" - 48"

3rd Grade: This grade will have a wider range of color variation than 2nd Grade. It will also have more knots and mineral streaks than the higher grades, and the average knot size will be larger, and some open knots are included.

\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE CONSULT WITH YOUR BUILDIRECT SALES TEAM WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR FOR ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION\*\*\*\*\*