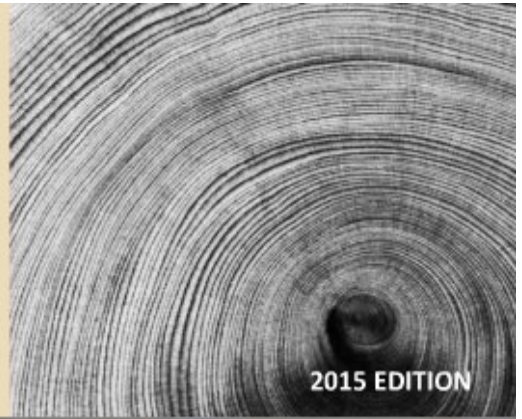


HARDWOOD PLYWOOD

Grading Guide



2015 EDITION

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING POPULAR HARDWOOD PLYWOOD FACE VENEER GRADES



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From the tree to works of art: A guide to understanding the hardwood plywood standard

An introduction from Ang Schramm

Trees are amazing. They provide us with shelter, warm our hearths, and shade us from the heat of the summer sun. But they also give us far more as they offer up their inner distinctiveness to serve us as one of the most functional and attractive of all materials for quality kitchen and bath cabinetry, fine furniture, architectural millwork, store fixtures, and wall furnishings, to name just a few.

Wood is a unique material for decorative applications in that by its very nature no two pieces can ever be exactly alike. Its appearance may be consistent for a given species within a broad and generalized range, but even wood from the same tree can

vary in aesthetics and physical properties. Growth conditions such as geography and climate, availability of water and nutrients, adverse weather, genetics, pestilence, injury, competition for space, bacterial or viral infection, the presence of extraneous compounds contributing to the color of heartwood, the lighter color of sapwood, and the presence of limbs and their relationship to figure and knots, are but a few of the factors contributing to this phenomenon.

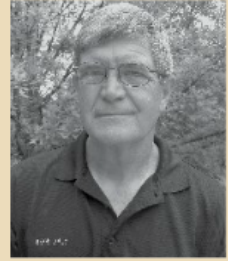
It is the purpose of this publication to help us give some order to this assortment of characteristics in a practical manner with an overview of the industry standard

grading tables and other content, including veneer production, core options, and plywood manufacture. With a sound understanding of the inherent individuality of trees, we have the rare opportunity to make every project or job a signature work of art!

Our goal is to provide this information in a way that is easy to understand and that will give us a valuable tool to help enhance communication and ensure that all your expectations are met when you choose Columbia Forest Products' PureBond® Hardwood Plywood.



HARDWOOD PLYWOOD Grading Guide



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A Complete Guide to Hardwood Plywood and Face Veneer

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BIRCH (*Betula spp.*)

Common names: White Birch, Yellow Birch, Red Birch

Sources: USA and Canada

Description: Light tan to pale yellow sapwood with red to ruddy heart wood. Grain is tight and smooth with normal amounts of figure and other characteristics.

Common cuts: Rotary (primarily), Plain sliced (available)

Uses: Decorative veneer and lumber primarily for kitchen cabinetry and furniture. Excellent surface for painting.

Availability: Abundant

Price: \$



**Birch Sap
Rotary Whole Piece A**



**Birch Sap
Rotary Whole Piece B**



**Birch Sap
Rotary Whole Piece C**



Birch Sap Plain Sliced A



Birch Sap Plain Sliced A



**Birch Sap
Rotary Back 1**



**Birch Sap
Rotary Spliced A**

BIRCH (*Betula spp.*)



**Birch Natural
Rotary Whole Piece A**



**Birch Natural
Rotary Whole Piece B**



**Birch Natural
Rotary Whole Piece C**



**Birch Natural
Rotary Whole Piece C**

Natural Characteristics	A Grade	B Grade	C Grade
Small Conspicuous Burls & Pin Knots — Comb. Avg. Number	10 per 4 x 8' panel	16 per 4 x 8' panel	No limit
Conspicuous Burls — Max. Size	3/8"	1/2"	No limit
Conspicuous Pin Knots Average Number Max. Size: Dark Part Max. Size: Total	1 per 8 sq ft 4 per 4 x 8' panel 1/8" 1/4"	1 per 4 sq ft 8 per 4 x 8' panel 1/8" 1/4"	No limit
Scattered Sound and Repaired Knots Comb. Average Number Max. Size — Sound Max. Size — Repaired Avg. Number — Repaired	No	1 per 8 sq ft 4 per 4 x 8' panel 3/8" 1/8" 1 per 8 sq ft	1 per 4 sq ft 8 per 4 x 8' panel 1/2" 1/2" 1 per 8 sq ft
Mineral Streaks	Slight	Slight	Yes
Bark Pockets	No	Few to 1/8" x 1"	Few to 1/4" x 2"
Worm Tracks	Slight	Slight; Ash Yes	Yes
Vine Marks	Slight	Slight	Yes
Cross Bars	Slight	Yes	Yes

Important Disclaimer

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