

INFORMATION SHEET

GRADING GUIDE



CHOOSING YOUR TIMBER GRADE

Every piece of timber tells its own story—rich with natural features that make wood a unique material. Grading simply groups these natural features—like knots, grain, and colour variation—so you can choose the look that suits your space.

Grading isn't about quality—every Chauncey's floorboard is crafted to the same high standard, no matter the grade. What changes is the appearance: things like the number and size of knots, the variation in colour, grain pattern, and the presence of natural features such as sapwood or splits. This guide will help you find the grade that feels right for your project.

KEY TERMS EXPLAINED....

SOUND KNOT - A sound (or tight knot) is a knot that is solid and firmly held within the board—these are structurally secure and won't affect the integrity of the floor. Sound knots may have filled cracks.

PIN KNOT - A very small, sound knot—usually no more than 10mm in diameter—caused by the early growth of a tiny branch. Pin knots are sound (structurally secure) and add subtle, natural detail to the wood without disrupting its clean appearance.

FILLED KNOT - An open knot that has a crack or hole, which has been professionally filled to create a smooth, stable surface while preserving the wood's natural charm.

SAPWOOD - The younger, paler wood found near the outer edge of the tree. It can appear as lighter streaks in the board and is considered a natural feature, more common in rustic grades.

MEDULLARY RAYS - Medullary rays are natural, shimmering streaks often seen in oak, especially when the timber is quarter sawn. These silvery markings run across the grain and add unique character to each board.

SPLIT - A natural crack or lengthwise split that develops along the grain of a timber board. It's not a flaw in craftsmanship, but a characteristic of how solid wood behaves as it adapts to its environment. These stable surface-level splits are professionally filled.

TECTONIC® ENGINEERED OAK PLANKS



PRIME

Our cleanest and most uniform option, Prime grade offers a sleek, refined look with minimal variation.



- Little colour variation
- Mainly clear boards
- Occasional sound pin knots up to 10mm allowed
- No splits or sap permitted

CHARACTER

Character grade celebrates the natural charm and individuality of the wood. You'll see a broader range of colour variation and distinctive grain, giving the floor an authentic, organic feel.



- Colour variation permitted
- Filled knots up to 35mm
- Sound knots up to 70mm
- Cracks in knots up to 100mm, either end of knot
- Occasional stable end splits — length of split can be up the width of the board.
- Occasional sound hard sap up to 10% of face area of the board

N.B. Other grades such as 'Select' and 'Standard' grade are also available on some boards.

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GIANT TECTONIC® OAK PLANKS



MILL RUN

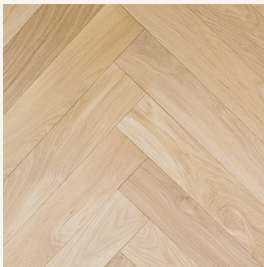
Mill Run offers a natural mix of our oak grades, showcasing a wide range of timber's unique features. Each batch varies, with different amounts of clear boards, knots, splits, and sapwood. Expect a beautiful blend of colour variations—both subtle and bold—as well as straight or wavy grain patterns. Knots of all sizes, traces of sapwood, and striking medullary rays add to the rustic charm and character of this grade. Perfect for those who love the full story and texture of natural oak.

TECTONIC® ENGINEERED OAK HERRINGBONE



PRIME

This grade offers a clean, elegant look with minimal colour variation for a consistent finish.



- Minimal colour variation permitted
- Occasional sound pin knots up to 10mm allowed
- No sapwood

CHARACTER

Character grade brings out the natural beauty and individuality of the wood, with a broader range of colour variation and more visible knots.



- Some colour variation permitted
- Sound knots up to 30mm allowed
- Filled knots up to 15mm allowed
- Limited sapwood

TUMBLLED SOLID OAK HERRINGBONE



MILL RUN

Mill Run offers a natural mix of our oak grades, showcasing a wide range of timber's unique features. Each batch varies, with different amounts of clear boards, knots, splits, and sapwood. Expect a beautiful blend of colour variations—both subtle and bold—as well as straight or wavy grain patterns. Knots of all sizes, traces of sapwood, and striking medullary rays add to the rustic charm and character of this grade. Perfect for those who love the full story and texture of natural oak.

N.B. Please refer to our plank grading for any herringbone blocks over 500mm long. Other grades such as 'Select' and 'Standard' grade are also available on some boards.

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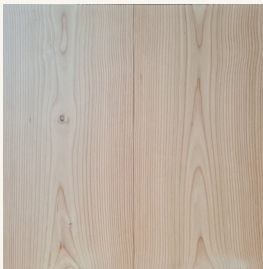


DOUGLAS FIR



SELECT

Select grade Douglas Fir features many clear boards with a clean, consistent appearance.



- Many clear boards
- Sound knots allowed up to approx. 30mm
- Open knots replaced by 30mm plugs
- Small open knots filled.
- No splits permitted
- Limited sapwood allowed

RUSTIC

Rustic grade embraces the full, natural character of Douglas Fir



- Sound knots allowed without limitation
- Open knots are replaced by 30mm/50mm plugs
- Small open knots filled
- Sapwood allowed without restrictions
- Heart and end cracks up to 100mm are allowed but are filled

EUROPEAN ASH



SELECT

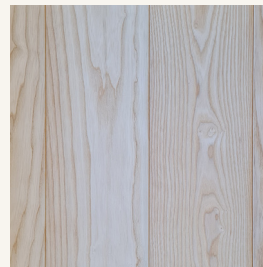
Select grade Ash features mainly clear boards with a clean, consistent appearance. Occasional sound knots are allowed as described below:



- Unselected for colour (brown)
- Occasional sound knots – max. 20mm (30mm on 260/300mm wide boards)
- Filled knots — max. 10mm (15mm on 260/300mm wide boards)
- Minor (end) cracks up to 200mm allowed
- Sap and 'olive ash' heartwood allowed

WHITE ASH SELECT

Select grade White Ash offers a clean, natural white tone with limited colour variation for a fresh, consistent look.



- No 'olive ash' heartwood permitted
- Occasional 10mm pin knots
- Limited colour variation (natural white tone)

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ELM



SELECT

Select grade Elm features a beautiful mix of grain patterns and natural colour variation, giving each board subtle individuality.



- Sound knots maximum of 15mm (20mm for 260mm and wider)
- Filled knots maximum of 30mm (40mm for 260mm and wider)
- Mixed grain
- Some natural colour variation

MILL RUN

Mill Run Elm is perfect for those who appreciate timber with rich, natural variation and personality.



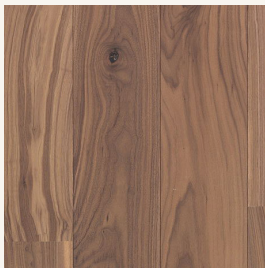
Our Mill Run Elm is supplied in a mixed width and in a mixed grade. This includes varying characteristics, with cracks up to 200mm, sound knots up to 90mm and filled knots up to 40mm. It may contain larger colour variations and traces of sapwood, as this is typical for elm.

AMERICAN BLACK WALNUT



SELECT

Select grade American Black Walnut offers a rich, elegant finish with a refined, consistent appearance.



140/180/220mm wide

- Knots maximum of 25mm
- Filled knots up to maximum of 15mm
- Limited sapwood (steamed to balance colour)

260mm wide

- Knots maximum 30mm
- Filled knots up to maximum of 15mm
- Limited sapwood (steamed to balance colour)

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