

HARDWOOD PLYWOOD

Grading Guide

2015 EDITION

A GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING POPULAR HARDWOOD PLYWOOD FACE VENEER GRADES



BROUGHT TO YOU BY

columbia
FOREST PRODUCTS™

columbiaforestproducts.com

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.

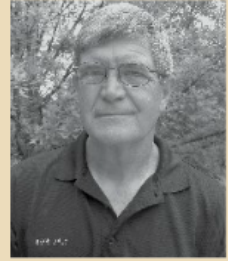
It is the purpose of this publication to help us give some order to this assortment of characteristics in a practical manner with an overview of the industry standard

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



Ang Schramm

Director of Technical Services

Author of
A Complete Guide to Hardwood Plywood and Face Veneer

Past Panel Products Director
HPVA

Past Chair HPVA Technical Committee

Director and Instructor
Columbia Forest Products University

CHERRY (*Prunus serotina*)

Common name: American Black Cherry

Sources: USA and Canada

Description: Pink to reddish brown heart wood, blonde sap wood. Tight grain minimum early wood. Gum, pin knots, and burls are prevalent. Figure is common and may include heavy patterns such as ropey, mottled, chevron, and flare.

Common cuts: Plain sliced, Quarter sliced (usually as false quarters)

Uses: Kitchen and bath cabinetry, fine furniture, architectural millwork, molding.

Availability: Readily available

Price: \$\$



Cherry Plain Sliced A



Cherry Plain Sliced B



Cherry Quarter Sawn A

Natural Characteristics	A Grade	B Grade	C Grade
Small Conspicuous Burls & Pin Knots — Comb. Avg. Number	24 per 4 x 8' panel	64 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 2 sq ft 16 per 4 x 8' panel 1/8" 1/4"	1 per 1 sq ft 32 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	Yes	Yes
Bark Pockets	No	Few to 1/8" x 1"	Few to 1/4" x 2"
Worm Tracks	No	Slight	Few
Vine Marks	Occasional	Yes	Yes
Cross Bars	Occasional	Yes	Yes
Gum Spots	Occasional gum spots in Cherry	Gum spots and gum streaks in Cherry	Gum spots and gum streaks in Cherry

Important Disclaimer

The photographs on this site are presented as examples only, and are not intended to represent or predict in any form the actual appearance of any grade or species. No range of color, grain, or other natural characteristics can be fully depicted in any single photograph or collection of photographs, and no representation or guarantee of appearance of any grade or species is made with respect to any such photograph contained herein.