

# FLOORING GRADES

## Quick description of established unfinished grades

### 1. Clear

Best appearance. Selected for uniformity of light colours for the light species like Maple, Birch and Ash, or for uniformity of the darker colours for the species like: Oak, Cherry and Walnut. • This grade is available mainly in the unfinished • The minimum length is 12”

### 2. Select

Variation in the natural sapwood colour for light species. Variation in the heartwood for darker species. Admitted are light contrast variations sap and heart mixing. • No stains, no checks or splits • Pin knots less than 1/8” (3mm) admitted • mineral streaks not exceeding 1/8” x 4” (3mm x 100 mm) admitted • The minimum length is 12”

### 3. No 1 Common or Mill Run

Variegated appearance. All colour variations are allowed. Sound knots, less than 3/8” (10mm). Flags, worm holes, and mineral streaks are allowed

### 4. No 2 Common

Short pieces, all colours variations allowed. All characteristics of the species are allowed. Sound knots. • Large mineral streaks

### 5. Rustic

Very short pieces are admitted. All defects from group no 4 are admitted. Admit open knots, holes and splits which have been filled to make a serviceable floor.

## Mixed Grades

Most prefinished flooring is sold as a blend of the above grades.

- All prefinished manufacturers use proprietary flooring grades. This is a good way to balance inventories and to help sell certain grades which are not often specified.
- For instance, in the year 2003, flooring products in the higher grades were hard to sell. Although the products in the lower grades as No 1 Common were highly demanded. The majority of manufacturers were constantly running out of stocks in the lower grades while the higher grades were piling up in the warehouses. So, in order to get a better flow in all grades, manufacturers mix different grades. All grades can be mixed, but most commonly mixed are select and better and No 1 Common. From this mixing are the following names; Pacific, Atlantic, Prose, Elegance, Vogue, and many more, depending on the name chosen by each producer.

## Description of Estate Smartsolids Prefinished grades sold by Windsor

**Mansion Grade** is similar to “Select” grading, allowing for subtle colour variations and occasional pin knots.

**Chateau Grade** is similar to “#1 Common” grading, with colour variation and tight knots.

**Chalet Grade** retains the features of the species that are naturally present. Has a shorter average length, greater colour variation and allows for more knots.



Note: 1. Flooring pieces are graded after milling but before prefinishing. 2 After being varnished, all flooring pieces are subject to quality control. Re-grading done if needed.

# Windsor Plywood