

MFMA SPORTS FLOORS

Grading Rules

NORTHERN HARD MAPLE



www.maplefloor.org

First Grade Northern Hard Maple

The highest standard MFMA grade is hand selected to minimize the natural character variations of the species.



Second and Better Grade Northern Hard Maple

The predominant grade specified, this grade exhibits more natural variations than first grade.



Third and Better Grade Northern Hard Maple

This grade provides the visual variations of third grade combined with the aesthetics of second and better grade.



Third Grade Northern Hard Maple

This grade has the same structural integrity as all other grades and exhibits a contrasting natural appearance.



Edge-Grain Flooring

Specially selected and consisting of pieces in which the annual rings range from 30 degrees horizontal to 90 degrees vertical.

(Note: Since hard maple is generally produced from lumber sawn out of relatively small logs with varying knurls, resulting in considerable variation in a single piece, flooring shall be considered to be all edge-grain if 75% of each piece falls within the above mentioned range.)

Kiln Drying

Flooring is not considered of specified grade unless the lumber has been properly kiln-dried.

End Matching

All MFMA flooring is end-matched unless otherwise specified.

Bundled Strip Flooring

Flooring bundled in average length bundles which may include pieces from 6" under to 6" over the nominal length of the bundle. Flooring is bundled by grade in conformance with regular grade requirements. No individual piece shorter than 9" is allowed.

Nested Strip Flooring

Flooring bundled continuously end to end, typically in 7' or 8' bundles. MFMA flooring is bundled by grade and no individual piece shorter than 9" is allowed.

Length Distribution By Grades

No individual piece shorter than 9" admitted.

Beech and Birch Flooring

These rules also apply to beech and birch flooring.

Color In Grading

Changes in the color of lumber supplied to our mill manufacturing members is a result of supply and demand of raw maple lumber. Because wood is a natural product, it is subject to color variations resulting from differing growing conditions. Consistency of color cannot be controlled in the manufacturing process, and color variation is not a grading defect.

Rules Governing Reinspection

Detailed information regarding reinspection are available at maplefloor.org For dispute resolution contact MFMA.

Assurance of Quality

- MFMA mills are subject to regular, unannounced third-party inspections to assure rules for governing species, millage and grading are being followed.
- MFMA provides site inspections for MFMA floors to assess installation or post-installation issues.
- MFMA enforces strict manufacturing, grading, packaging, shipping and installation standards.
- All MFMA floors are marked as MFMA and include a mill number as assurance all standards have been met.

MFMA Northern Hard Maple

- Dense, strong, remarkably hard and durable
- Wide colors possibilities and easily covered with attractive finishes
- Close-grained, hard-fibered, free from slivering and splintering, and polishes well under friction
- Naturally beautiful and suited for a variety of uses
- Resists point pressure without abrasion

About MFMA

The Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association (MFMA) is the authoritative source of technical and general information about maple flooring and related sports flooring systems. Through cooperative member programs, MFMA establishes product quality, performance and installation guidelines; educates end users about safety, performance and maintenance issues; and promotes the use of maple flooring products worldwide.

MFMA members consult with architects, contractors, school officials and maintenance personnel to answer questions about the specification, use and care of MFMA maple flooring.

Purpose

The Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association (MFMA) provides these Grading Rules, including proposals on care, as a guide to specifiers, architects, end users, and other professionals. MFMA, its members and employees do not warrant the information contained herein as proper under all conditions. MFMA reserves the right to revise these Grading Rules as necessary.



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