



Midwest HARDWOOD

C O R P O R A T I O N

We Make Green Easy™



www.midwesthardwood.com

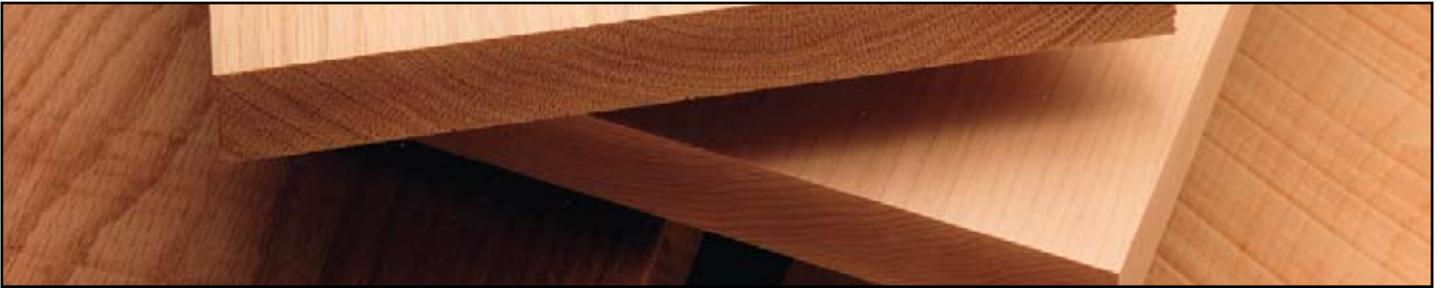
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AVAILABLE SPECIES; NORTHERN HARD MAPLE, NORTHERN RED OAK,
NORTHERN BLACK WALNUT, NORTHERN WHITE OAK AND NORTHERN CHERRY

Many of our customers are beginning to focus on FSC certified lumber sources. In order to create value through the FSC[®] chain we know you will need a valuable partner/supplier of FSC lumber and logs. Midwest Hardwood Corporation was one of the first North American hardwood lumber manufacturers to gain FSC certification. We were certified in 1995 and today hold multi-site certification covering our timberlands, sawmills, drying facilities and distribution yards. We can supply you large quantities of FSC North American Northern Red Oak, Hard Maple, Soft Maple, Ash, Aspen, Birch, Northern Black Walnut, White Oak, and Basswood in all grades. Please forward any FSC requirements you might have.

Your FSC needs do not have to be raw lumber. Our value-added processing facilities can rip and chop for you and maintain FSC certification. There is no other company in the United States that can offer the volumes of the popular species combined with ripped-to-width and cut-to-size dimension like Midwest Hardwood Corporation can.

Our forestry practices are designed to help maintain healthy forests for many future generations. Midwest Hardwood Corporation was one of the first companies in North America to receive FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certification by the Rainforest Alliance's Smartwood program. We presently ship FSC Certified Red Oak, Hard Maple, Birch, Basswood, White Oak and Northern Black Walnut to buyers around the world seeking a quality volume supplier of certified hardwood. As the leader in FSC certified hardwood products in North America, let Midwest Hardwood Corporation help you in meeting your certified lumber needs.



**The mark of
responsible forestry**

Our Company has been
FSC[®] Certified since 1995.
SW-COC-000008

RIFT & QUARTERED SPECIES AND GRADES

GENERAL GRADE RULES

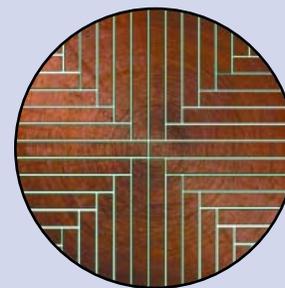
Graded to National Hardwood Lumber Association Grading rules for Select & Better, #1 Common and #2 Common grades. Below are the general grades we use.

	Select & Better	#1 Common	#2 Common
% Clear	83-1/3%	66-2/3%	50%
Cutting Sizes	4" x 5' or 3" x 7'	4" x 2' or 3" x 3'	3" x 2'
Lengths	6' and longer	4' and longer	4' and longer
Widths	4" and wider	3" and wider	3" and wider

For a complete grade see the *National Hardwood Lumber Association* grading rules book.

See species photos and descriptions for specific notations on width and color.

A quartered board features medullary ray or “fleck” perpendicular to a grain which typically forms angles from 60 degrees to 90 degrees with the board’s surface. A rift board exhibits a clean, straight, vertical grain pattern which typically forms angles from 30 degrees to 60 degrees with the board’s surface. A combination of rift and quarter-sawn lumber is often used by wood craftsmen to achieve a balanced, interesting imaginative effect.



NORTHERN RED OAK

Midwest Hardwood Corporation offers Rift & Quartered Red Oak sawn from true Northern Red Oak logs. The color of the resulting lumber offers an unparalleled consistency when compared to Appalachian and Southern Appalachian production.

The sapwood in Red Oak is blonde and usually one to two inches thick; the heartwood is very light brown with a tinge of red or pink. Due to slower growth, wood cut in northern US has a finer texture, more consistent pale pink color and somewhat denser, than central or southern US oak. Quarter sawn Red Oak does exhibit some fleck or “medullary ray” effect, although it is not nearly as pronounced as in White Oak. The Rift sawn Red oak offers a calm, straight grained appearance used in many contemporary settings for doors, cabinetry, flooring and other millwork.

Northern Oak is preferred in all turning and flooring applications. The wood is most often straight grained, and open pored. After drying properly it is one of the most dimensionally stable domestic woods, even in wider widths. It is broadly available in a good selection of widths and thicknesses. Lower grades show significant variation in color and coarse knots.

* Thickness available special order only.



NORTHERN WHITE OAK

Midwest Hardwood’s Rift & Quarter sawn White Oak also offers a higher degree of color consistency due to the sourcing of high quality Northern hardwood timber. Quarter sawn white oak remains the species artisans use for mission and arts and crafts style interiors. It is chosen because the medullary ray fleck, wavy grain, and because other aesthetic qualities are more pronounced in White Oak than other species. White oak is also a denser, more stable, and durable species.



NORTHERN BLACK WALNUT

The Rift & Quartered Northern Black Walnut offers buyers a volume source for a rare cut of hardwood in an already rare species. Rift & Quartered Walnut lumber is used for fine furniture, architectural woodwork, musical instruments, decorative panels, interior trim, and flooring and is more in demand today than ever before as it offers buyers a straight grained, dark, native North American hardwood



NORTHERN HARD MAPLE

Rift & Quartered Northern Hard Maple is currently used for furniture, cabinets, decorative woodwork, flooring, and veneers. In Midwest’s Northern Rift & Quartered Hard Maple the heartwood or brown portion of the log is isolated to the inside edge and it is limited to 1” or less in width across the board face. Vertical grain white Northern Hard Maple offers a “fresh” look to the traditional Maple appearance consumers are accustomed to seeing.



NORTHERN CHERRY

In cabinetmaking, cherry is rated one of the favorites because of its beauty and versatility. It’s unique patina, ability to take stains well, and deep rich red color make it unique in North American hardwoods. Midwest produces a Rift & Quartered Cherry that maintains all the highly desired physical properties of Northern Cherry, while like Maple offering a “fresh” look at Cherry in a vertical grain product.

PLAIN/FLAT SAWN SPECIES AND GRADE

Midwest Hardwood offers the following species in standard NHLA grades, but also has grades available upon request for customer specific programs.

NORTHERN		APPALACHIAN	IMPORTED
Alder	Hickory	White Oak	Baltic Birch
Aspen	Red Oak	Yellow Poplar	European Beech
Basswood	Soft Maple	White Ash	African Mahogany
Butternut	White Ash	Red Oak	Genuine Mahogany
Black Ash	White Birch	Hickory	Royal Mahogany
Black Walnut	White Oak	Hard Maple	Sepele
Cherry	White Pine	Beech	Jatoba
Cottonwood	Yellow Birch		
Hard Maple	Yellow Poplar		



HARD MAPLE

Hard Maple is one of the leading products produced by Midwest Hardwood Corporation. The company is known for producing “paper” white Hard Maple for demanding cabinet manufacturers, moulding & millwork manufacturers, flooring manufacturers and distributors across North America.

Midwest’s Premium Northern Hard Maple is the result of proper handling from the forest, through logging and sawing. Then, once sawn, the closely monitored, proprietary kiln drying process produces a product that is unparalleled in the industry for whiteness from the surface to the core of the piece.

The sapwood in Midwest’s Hard Maple is white and the heartwood varies from light to dark reddish brown. Both sapwood and heartwood can contain pith fleck, although minimized in this region. The wood has a close fine, uniform texture and is generally straight-grained, but it can also occur as “curly,” “fiddleback,” and “birds-eye” figure.

Northern Wisconsin and the upper peninsula of Michigan are where the best Hard Maple trees in the world are grown. This is where the Midwest sawmill, Park Falls Hardwoods, sources its logs. Only from the best resource can the best lumber be sawn. In Midwest’s Hard Maple you will see exactly what “Premium” Hard Maple means.

**WHITE OAK**

White oak varies in color from light tan to pale yellow-brown. Midwest's Northern White Oak is similar to European oak. Midwest's Northern White Oak contains a medium to coarse texture and is somewhat more figured than Red Oak due to longer rays.

**RED OAK**

Northern Red Oak Flooring (*QuercusRubra*) is the is one of the most highly prized species. It is known for its clarity of color, denseness, consistency of color and grain, and its beauty. Used for cabinetry, millwork, mouldings, and flooring. Compared to Red Oak from the Appalachian and Southern producing areas, Midwest's Northern Red Oak offers a more consistent color and texture than available elsewhere.

**YELLOW BIRCH**

Birch is a light wood which is close grained and has a uniform texture. It is available as "white" or "yellow" Birch which contains mostly sapwood or as "natural" which contains a mix of heartwood and sapwood. Midwest's Birch is properly manufactured and well-dried.

**HICKORY**

Hickory has growth rings that are less pronounced than in oak or ash. The wood is dense with wide variations between the sapwood and the heartwood. The heartwood is on the "chocolate" side, while the sapwood is cream colored. Midwest's Northern Hickory has a higher percentage of the desired "calico" boards that exhibit both heartwood and sapwood on the same board.

**CHERRY**

Cherry is a well-known hardwood that is widely used in furniture and cabinetry across North America. It is a pale red color that after sawing will darken and become a rich red. It has a beautiful and distinctive grain to it and is known as "semi-ring diffused". This means it shows some growth rings, but they are not as pronounced as oak or ash.

PREMIUM RUSTIC SPECIES AND GRADES

GENERAL GRADE RULES

Character marked hardwoods shall admit any kind, number or distribution of the following characteristics incident to tree growth; heartwood, sapwood, knots, burls, swirls or other fiber irregularities, bird pecks, holes or grooves, knots not exceeding 3" in diameter and color streaks or spots, and light stain, but the cuttings shall not admit decay, loose knots, excessive pith, shake, or split.

- Minimum 75% of each board usable in its full width
- Widths: 5½" and wider (140mm and wider)
- Lengths: 4'-12' (1220mm - 3660mm) heavy to 7'-8' (2135mm - 2440mm)
- Knot size limitation 3" (76mm)
- Open knots or holes allowed up to 1" (25mm) in diameter
- Minimum full width x 2' (610mm) cutting size
- The reverse side of each cutting shall be as defined as Sound Cuttings, and will not allow holes and open knots larger than 1" (25mm) in diameter.
- Wane: 1" width wane in total aggregate from both sides of the board in cuttings. Total wane less than ½ length of the board in cuttings.
- Board Ends: within 1' (305mm) of either end of board piece must be minimum 75% of full width of board, or be trimmed back.



BLACK WALNUT

The flagship species in Midwest Hardwood's Premium Rustic Program is Northern Black Walnut. Sawn in a proprietary way by an experienced manufacturing team the Rustic Black Walnut contains an extremely heavy percentage of heartwood, numerous tight captured defects along with the rich color and swirly grain that Walnut is known for.

Once sawn great care is taken with all our rustic species as drying of rustic lumber takes special care to ensure a relatively flat, straight and usable product. Over the last four years Midwest Hardwood Corporation has positioned itself as the leader in rustic lumber production from North American hardwoods.

**HICKORY**

The Premium Rustic Hickory produced by Midwest Hardwood contains all the naturally occurring characteristics of Hickory such as knots, burls, limited worm holes, bird peck, contrasting sap and heartwood, and all other distinguishing markings.

**HARD MAPLE**

Midwest Hardwood's Premium Rustic Northern Hard Maple offers flooring and cabinet makers a great substitute to the calico look of Hickory. Selected for boards that exhibit light to medium brown heartwood along with a mixture of sapwood, Premium Rustic Hard Maple is a great fit for cabins, lodges and other rustic interiors.

**WHITE OAK**

The Premium Rustic White Oak produced by Midwest Hardwood is perfect for both solid and engineered flooring applications. The Rustic Northern White Oak produced under Midwest's proprietary rustic manufacturing program is known worldwide for tight captured defects, tight growth rings due to the northern climate and a high degree of color consistency.

**CHERRY**

The Premium Rustic Cherry produced by Midwest Hardwood exhibits all the naturally occurring characteristics of Cherry such as knots, burls, gum pockets, grain figure, contrasting sap and heartwood and all other distinguishing markings. These attributes give way to suitable uses for one-face (solid flooring) and two-face (cabinetry, millwork, flooring wear layer sawn veneer) applications.

ABOUT US



Midwest Hardwood Corporation is a Minneapolis, MN USA based manufacturer of North American hardwood lumber, logs and value-added hardwood products. We have been in business since 1980, and are the largest saw milling company in the Northern USA. We produce over 100,000,000MBF of North American hardwoods annually from 3 modern sawmills and dry kiln facilities. We are also experienced exporters as we presently ship over 100 containers per month to destinations around the world.

We have been FSC certified since 1995 and have begun our second decade of providing FSC certified products to manufacturers around the world. Today our entire operation is FSC Certified under our multi-site certification certificate (SW-COC-00008). We can provide large volumes of FSC Hard Maple, Red Oak, White and Black Ash, and some FSC White Oak and Northern Black Walnut.

We can offer you a long-term supply of some of the finest hardwood species available anywhere in the world at competitive prices. Dealing with a fully integrated manufacturer, that owns the timberlands, the sawmills, the kilns and the secondary processing facility takes out much of the risk in offering new species in the marketplace. We understand how to properly saw lumber for specific widths, we understand how to dry lumber flat and stress relieved for sawing face veneers. We understand proprietary grades. We are already producing many containers each month for single strip manufacturers. In short we understand sawing, drying and providing value added services in lumber better than any other US manufacturer.

We are the leading North American company in creating premium rustic grade lumber. We run our rustic grade program in our sawmills with the focus on the widths and lengths desired in finished flooring products. This product is now in very strong demand from wide single strip manufacturers and could be easily carried to a dimension line. Our proprietary cutting methodology produces a superior blank with less sap that pushes more of the defects to the center of each board.

Since its inception Midwest Hardwood Corporation has focused on companies we can build long-term relationships with. As evidence of this we have today several of the same accounts we had in 1984. We hope to build the same long-term relationships with flooring manufacturers around high quality species such as; Northern Black Walnut, Northern White Oak, Northern Hard Maple and Cherry.

Midwest Hardwood Corporation stands ready to be a valued supplier to you of fixed width lumber, rough dimension, sawn face veneers for single strip flooring and any other North American hardwood products you might need. Let us show you how we can create a mutually beneficial relationship with your company on your hardwood needs.



OUR MILLING PROCESS

Beginning in the forest, we work directly with land owners to ensure the proper care of their land. Our forestry practices are designed to help maintain healthy forests for many future generations. Midwest Hardwood Corporation was one of the first companies in North America to receive FSC certification by the SmartWood Program (SW-COC-08) and become green certified.

Once harvested, some of the best logs are sold for veneer, some are directly exported, but most go through one of Midwest's three sawmills in Wisconsin. Like all of our companies, the mills are individual profit centers and each finds the best market for the green lumber, veneer logs, and pallet cants. Combined, the mills generate 43 million board feet of hardwood lumber each year.

OUR DRYING OPERATIONS

Two of Midwest's dry kiln operations are located in Wisconsin, and one operates in Kentucky. We strive for the highest quality standards in the industry by utilizing the latest technology in equipment. Thirty million board feet of lumber go through our computer operated kilns each year. Once the lumber is dry and stress-relieved, it is shipped to manufacturers and distribution yards across the country and around the world.

OUR DISTRIBUTION YARDS

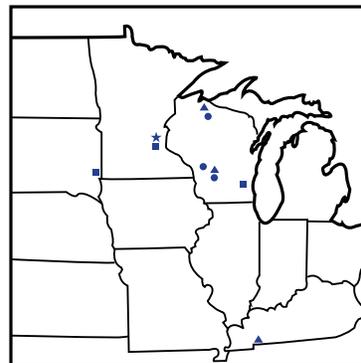
Midwest owns three of its own distribution centers that sell much more than just hardwood lumber. Each location offers a slightly different variety of products, including domestic and exotic hardwoods, plywoods, panel products, laminates, and hardware.

OUR EMPLOYEES

At Midwest, we understand that even the best products mean little without the right employees. We are as committed to our employees as they are to us. We invest time and resources in our employees with competitive wages and benefits, and numerous opportunities for cross-training, job rotation, and advancement. All are extensively trained to stay abreast of industry trends. Consistent, excellent service, and the building of long-term customer relationships, are important to all our employees.

OUR COMMITMENT

We are committed to excellence in everything we do. This has driven us to implement the highest standards from harvesting to delivering. Every effort is made to exceed the expectations of our customers in both service and product. High yield in each customer's operation is our ultimate goal.



- ★ Headquarters
- Sawmills
- ▲ Dry Kilns
- Distribution Yards



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VALUE-ADDED



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DRY KILNS



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