

CULPEPER GRADES OF LUMBER



DIMENSION GRADES

- **#3 Grade:** When appearance is of no concern, this construction grade will contain large knots, excessive wane, occasional knot holes, and manufacturing defects.
- **#2 Grade:** When appearance is of moderate concern, this construction grade will contain moderate sized knots (occasionally unsound) and can have a considerable amount of wane. Keep in mind, that with the introduction of Prime grades, #2 Grade no longer contains some of the better grades that used to be included.
- **#2 Prime:** A step up from #2 Grade in appearance, this grade will have characteristics similar to those found in #2 Grade— the difference is #2 Prime is virtually wane-free. When referring to fence boards, this grade is often called Appearance Grade.
- **#1 Grade:** When appearance becomes more of a factor, #1 Grade will contain smaller, fewer, sound, tight knots and have less wane than found in #2 Grade. Keep in mind, that with the introduction of Prime grades, #1 Grade no longer contains some of the better grades that used to be included.
- **#1 Prime (SELECT):** A step up from #1 Grade in appearance, this grade will have characteristics similar to those found in #1 Grade— the difference is #1 Prime is virtually wane-free. We make every effort to source this product from a single supplier to ensure a superior product.
- **Dense Grade (Premier and Platinum):** These grades have superior density and strength properties. These same properties make this grade an excellent choice when appearance is a major concern. While it can have wane similar to that found in #1 Grade, it has tighter growth rings and contains smaller and fewer knots.
- **CLEAR Grade:** When appearance is of paramount concern, this grade, as the name implies, is virtually knot-free and contains no wane. It has a warm, rich, distinctive wood grain and is denser in nature.
- **Wane:** The presence of bark or the lack of wood fiber along the edge of a piece of lumber. The amount of wane varies according to lumber grade as described in the Southern Pine Inspection Bureaus grading rules.

DECKING GRADES

- **Standard:** When appearance is of moderate concern, this decking grade will contain larger, more frequent knots, but because it is primarily designed for decking, it is virtually wane-free.
- **Gold:** A step up from our Standard Grade decking and a step down from our Premium Grade decking.
- **Premium:** When appearance becomes more of a factor, this decking grade will contain far fewer and much smaller knots than Standard and is also virtually wane-free.
- **Select:** A step up from our Premium Grade decking and a step down from our Clear Grade decking.
- **Clear:** When appearance is of paramount concern, this decking grade, as the name implies, is virtually knot-free and contains no wane.

BOARD GRADES

- **#2:** When appearance is of moderate concern, this grade will contain moderate size knots and can have a considerable amount of wane. It is most commonly used for sheathing and applications where a fine finish is not required.
- **#2 Prime/Appearance Grade (APG):** A step up from #2 in appearance, this grade will have characteristics similar to those found in #2—the difference is Appearance Grade is virtually wane-free. Note that, Appearance Grade boards bare no ink stamp or grade mark.
- **D Grade:** When appearance is more of a factor, D Grade will contain smaller, fewer, tight, sound knots and is virtually wane-free. It is most commonly used in applications requiring a fine finish such as flooring and wall paneling.
- **C Grade:** When appearance is of paramount concern, this grade, as the name implies, is virtually knot-free and contains no wane. It is also most commonly used in applications requiring a fine finish.