

Selecting Veneer 1 of 2

Our inventory includes over seventy species, each with unique characteristics and a wide array of variation. The selection process can often be overwhelming and consideration should be given to the following when selecting veneer:

Color



Color tone can vary significantly between species and within the same log. Color in logs often changes from the outer layers or sapwood, which are generally lighter to the inner layers or heartwood, which are older and darker. We procure veneer knowing that there are desired color ranges and characteristics. Our online veneer library includes the most common tones that describe the general color patterns found in the selected species.

Cut



There are several ways veneer is cut from a log, each producing a variety of visual effects. Our team provides expert assistance in understanding veneer cutting methods, how cuts affect the appearance of veneer, and how they can best be selected for your project needs.

Figure



Figure is the surface effect of grain and color patterns produced by natural growth or biological "defects" in the tree. Not all species produce figured wood and the effects can vary significantly from log to log. The appearance of figure is influenced both by the specie and how the veneer is cut.

Finish



The finish and exposure to light should be considered when selecting veneer. Wood is a natural resource and while finishing materials and techniques have advanced significantly over the years, certain species are known to patina and age differently than others.

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Sequencing / Matching



Most architectural projects require perfectly sequenced material to achieve the aesthetic and design intent of the project. There are three matching processes to consider when using veneer: veneer matching, panel matching and panel positioning. Veneer matching occurs first and specifies how individual veneer leaves will be joined together on the face of the panel. Panel matching is then required to define how the completed veneer face is positioned during production of the panel. The final matching involves the positioning of finished panels during the construction process. The matches chosen for each of these processes can have a dramatic impact on the look of the veneer and the yields required.

Species



Our inventory and veneer library includes over 70 species of wood, all with unique qualities and characteristics. Availability can vary by the species selected and material can be limited by natural barriers or market trends. Because we are independent from veneer producers, we can combine material from worldwide supply relationships for larger projects or find the special veneer you need when quantities are limited. Our sales team will review your project needs and if the species desired is not readily available, we will assist you in finding it or find suitable alternatives.

As you make your selection, note that you don't have to look at the entire log to know what you have. Typically, we'll pull a selection of veneer leaves from various sections of the log, being sure to get a good representation of what is in it. These sample selections offer a good idea of how the grain, color, and figure appear throughout the flitch.