

Solid Lumber Has Qualities Often Lacking In Other Products



WESTERN PINE REGION WOOD goes to make handsome cabinets in this friendly kitchen. The natural beauty of the knots and grain has been enhanced by a brush-on, wipe-off color stain.

With many manufactured types of cabinet and much factory-finished paneling on the market, it is worthwhile to note some of the attributes of natural, unfinished lumber whether it is to be used for built-ins or for paneling.

Solid lumber is one of the most versatile products available to the home-owner who is building or remodeling. Furthermore, its best features were put into it by nature. These qualities have not been manufactured out of the wood.

GRAIN: There is a natural quality in the grain of solid lumber that is seldom found in manufactured wood products. The grain runs deep and looks it. It is a part of the beauty that runs through each board from front to back. The 11 kinds of wood that grow in the western pine region are known for their beauty in this respect, and two of the species which have particularly fine grains are sugar pine and larch.

KNOTS: The presence or absence of knots is strictly a question of the grade of lumber. A clear grade of wood is best suited to some uses—say for certain pieces of furniture—while a knotty grade of lumber will add immeasurably to beauty and pattern interest in other situations.

Home-owners should realize that knotty lumber need not create an informal atmosphere. True, if the

knots are pronounced and irregular as they are in ponderosa pine, this species might be the ideal choice for paneling a den, family room or boy's bedroom. On the other hand, the knots in Engelmann spruce and Idaho white pine are smaller and more discreet, so that these woods in a knotty grade might be perfect for a rather sophisticated or more formal room. Lodgepole pine has perhaps the tiniest knots of all the western pine region species, so that this wood is especially nice for small built-ins and limited areas of wall paneling.

COLOR: The natural color of lumber is particularly important when a clear finish is used. The species from the western pine region afford a good color range—from the very light Engelmann spruce and Idaho white pine up to the dark, reddish-toned incense cedar and inland red cedar. The other woods already mentioned fall in between, as do western hemlock, white fir and Douglas fir.

PANELING PATTERNS: When one buys solid lumber paneling either for walls or built-ins, there are a good many patterns to choose from. The pattern is the machine-carved moulded design along the edge of each board.

These range from simple V-joint to the so-called butterfly pattern. The latter is an elaborate,

deeply cut pattern most often seen in vertical installations of paneling. It adds to the vertical line of the paneling itself and is especially handsome in low-ceilinged rooms.

INSTALLATION DESIGNS: Solid paneling may be installed in many different designs. Two of the most familiar are vertical and horizontal installations. Less well-known but increasingly popular are designs such as herringbone and diagonal, and there are many other design possibilities.

FINISHES: Lumber purchased unfinished from a local supplier will respond beautifully to any custom finishing treatment an individual may prefer. This may be a clear finish, a wood-tone stain, or one of the popular brush-on, wipe-off color stains that allow the natural characteristics of the lumber to show through.

These are a few of the solid reasons for buying solid lumber if one wishes to create a natural, handsome and individual atmosphere in his home.

Governors Ask Research Office

SALEM (AP)—The committee of Economic Advisors to Western Governors Thursday recommended establishment of a research office to help attract new industry.

Sam Mallicoat of the Oregon Department of Planning and Development said the office would be located at a western college or university, if approved.

The recommendation now goes to the economic development committee of the Western Conference of Governors. Gov. Mark O. Hatfield is chairman of this committee.

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