

# Here's Your Guide To Hardwood Floors

Now that the age of wall-to-wall has been replaced by the bare and the beautiful, it's time to take another look at what's going on underfoot.

If you're planning to build a new home or to purchase new flooring for your old one, before making a final choice, consider the benefits of genuine hardwood floors for your house.

The new popularity of wood flooring is coupled with an increasing awareness of the importance of the floor in the decorative room schemes.

Genuine hardwood floors, available in pecan, oak, maple, teak, beech, birch, or walnut, are easy to care for and offer extra value in your home at resale time.

Here's a brief guide to the different types of hardwood flooring manufactured today which are readily obtainable at lumber yards, through building supply dealers, flooring distributors and your contractor, builder, or architect:

**Strip flooring** -- Narrow pieces or "strips" of hardwood are installed on the floor next to each other, creating a striped effect.

**Herringbone pattern** -- This is created from strip flooring which is laid in a chevron pattern. It can be designed in one color stain or finished in an exciting two-tone combination of alternating darker and lighter brown shades or even in two contrasting colors.

**Parquet flooring** -- The well-known parquet floor is composed of wood blocks made up of short strips of wood, arranged to form a square. When installed, the parquet tiles are placed so that each tile's wood figure pattern runs in a different direction, some vertically, some horizontally. By staggering the wood grains, the floor gains visual appeal.

**Plank flooring** -- The plank floor lends an immediate helping of charm and rustic flavor. Planks, or wide strips of wood, can be obtained for installation with heavy nails of brass or iron or wood plugs. Some plank hardwood flooring has been carved or treated to look like old, weathered wood.

**Mosaic patterns** -- Tiny squares of wood form an intricate pattern on floors. Their real appeal is for rooms with modern furniture, particularly with pieces made of walnut and teak.

**Prefinished flooring** -- To cut costs and ease installation, prefinished hardwood floors are available at lumber yards and building supply dealers. These wood blocks are pre-stained and many feature extra surface protection against stains, scuffs, and scratches.

**Polyurethane** -- This material is one of several designed to protect hardwood floors. It provides a permanent sheen, eliminating the need for waxing.

## Hardwood Wins Cost Derby

The "most practical" floors for single-family homes and apartments, in terms of "yearly cost, long-term cost, wear life, maintenance time, and preference," are hardwood floors, according to a study of flooring prepared by a U.S. Government agency.

The Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, made a nine-city survey of flooring costs, and found that when initial and maintenance costs are pro-rated over wear life, hardwood floors have an annual "true cost" per 100 square feet (\$6.67), that is only about half that of composition tile (\$11.67), and considerably less than half that of wall-to-wall carpeting (\$16.09).

What these cost differentials mean to the home owner can be understood by projecting them to an entire room or home. The Forest Service study showed that over the life of a 25-year mortgage, a home owner who has hardwood flooring in a 15x20-foot living room would save \$484 in comparison with the cost of composition tile in that same room, and \$750 in comparison with carpeting.

If this \$484-\$750 saving is projected over an entire home, it is clear that hardwood flooring can save a homeowner a substantial amount of money.

## HONOR AMERICA

June 14 thru July 4



Flag Day to Independence Day

Fly Our Flag Proudly

3 ft. x 5 ft.  
**FLAG SET**  
Includes 18 ft. steel post  
**\$14.95** Reg. \$19.95

Let our knowledgeable staff help you with your

- Window shades • WALLPAPER
- UNFINISHED FURNITURE

**O'BRIEN**  
PAINTS

**PEASE PAINT & WALLPAPER CO.**  
Serving Plymouth Since 1920

115 MAIN ST. Northville 349-7110  
Daily 9-6 Fri. 9-8  
570 MAIN ST. Plymouth 453-5100  
Daily 9-9 Sat. 9-6

## DEPENDABLE

# TV



## SERVICE

- We make home calls
- 12 service technicians
- 2 locations
- We service ALL makes
- Estimates before repair

Call Us Today

**Bill Brown's**



**MAGNAVOX**  
SALES & SERVICE

HOME ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

LIVONIA DEARBORN HTS.

31155 Plymouth 22344 Van Born

1 blk. E. of Meridian East of Telegraph

522-9600 565-4600

The California Look!



Fruit & Flowers that last the Year round

Priced from ..... \$10<sup>95</sup>

**The Cricket Box**

"THE HOUSE OF ELEGANT GIFTS"

44461 ANN ARBOR RD.

at SHELDON, PLYMOUTH

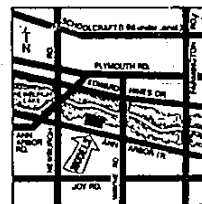
455-3332

HOURS: MON., TUES., WED., SAT. 9:30-6:00

THURS. & FRI. 9:30-5:00

**1,695 Total Down Payment**

**Incl. Costs (Limited Offer)**



Including carpeting, self-defrosting refrigerator, continuous clean oven, Range, Washer/Dryer, insulated windows-in choice Livonia neighborhood. All brick & block construction for the best in safety and sound conditioning. An Adult Community.

ONE BEDROOM

**\$23,400 to \$24,700**

Everything you want in a new home: outstanding construction quality, swimming pool and sun deck, a carport, minutes away from the freeway system, and much more. Open weekdays 1-8 (except Thurs.) Sat. & Sun. 12-6



**Parkway**

Condominium

VAN ALLEN BUILDERS, INC.

Livonia phone 261-4130

35900 Ann Arbor Trail (Between WAYNE & NEWBURGH ROAD)

