



For best results, choose right wood

Whether building cabinets, a floor or a house, the proper selection of lumber is necessary to ensure economy and permanence.

The many species of wood have particular hardnesses, strengths, cutting qualities, moisture content and gluing qualities that make it imperative that the homeowner learn the basic terminology of wood.

Experts at the lumberyard will be glad to answer questions and suggest specific wood for your project, but the more knowledge you possess before you go, the easier shopping will be.

Learn the terminology you will need to order properly. For example, the three types of board lumber are: "dimension lumber," with a thickness of two inches or more; "timber," five inches by five inches or more; and "board lumber," which is less than two inches thick.

You should know that lumber is graded according to its moisture factor. Normally you will want wood that has a moisture content of 19 percent or less since the wood will shrink as water evaporates, especially in a dry climate.

Gradings for moisture content, species, thickness and the certifying agency are stamped on individual boards; plywood is also certified according to grade of veneer, span index, type and product standard.

INSPECT THE boards for flaws such as knots, holes and splits. While finished window casings or moldings are made of quality lumber, when buying the lumber to build these yourself, you must check for flaws which may diminish the strength of the boards as they age.

When selecting the right wood species for your project, there are a number of factors to consider, such as hardness, strength, cutting and gluing quality.

According to the experts, floors, stair treads and counter-tops require lumber that rates high in the hardness category. Some examples are beech,

birch, hard maple, white oak, red oak, hickory and teak.

Hardwoods are also recommended for areas that bear a lot of weight, wear and traffic over the years, such as handrails and furniture.

If you want to stain the finished product, such as a floor, cabinet or piece of furniture, consider the type of stain that should be used with the lumber you select.

For example, oil-based varnish works best on Douglas fir, hemlock, cedar and redwood, while water-based stains are recommended for cypress, basswood, elm, mahogany, beech, cherry, red and white oak, walnut and hickory. Surprisingly, not all wood (including hickory, teak, mahogany and cherry) is sufficiently absorbent to be painted.

WOODS WITH a spongy texture or large pores are difficult to cut, causing the fibers to collapse and deform. When cutting ash, hard maple, white and red oak and hickory, use especially sharp tools to make certain the end grain is smooth.

Several wood species, such as ash, hard maple and teak, are much more difficult than others to glue. You should keep this in mind when building furniture or other pieces that require glue instead of nails.

Certain woods are recommended for common carpentry projects the home owner is likely to tackle. For example, in constructing floors, hardwoods such as oak or maple strips are the norm, although several softwoods, among them Douglas fir and southern pine, are also popular.

Baseboards, ceiling mouldings, picture rails, chair rails and door and window casings are frequently made of clear pine.

Softwood and hardwood veneers in sheets or strips are suitable for finish surfaces while plastic laminated veneers of the same hardness are used when constructing kitchen and bathroom counter tops.

BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME WITH VINYL SASH! The original vinyl replacement WINDOWS!

CULTURED
MARBLE SILLS

FREE

DURING
SEPTEMBER!

Serving the
area since
1934

333
N. PERRY
PONTIAC
335-4420



AS
ADVERTISED
ON T.V.

G-5433
FENTON RD.
FLINT
234-4831

OBERSON INSULATION

DO YOU WANT A WARMER HOUSE THIS WINTER?
ADD ADDITIONAL CEILING AND WALL INSULATION.

WHY DELAY?

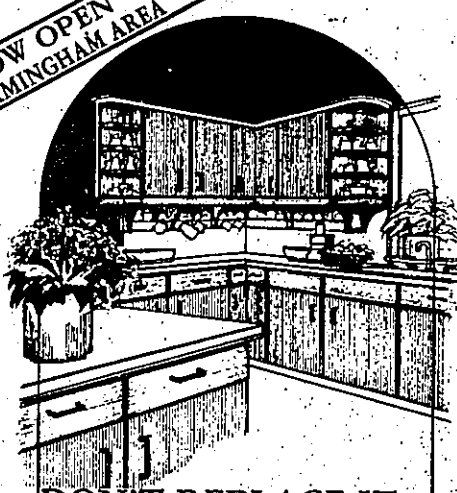
DO IT NOW!

Call for your free estimates.

852-5660

1055 E. Auburn Road, Rochester

NOW OPEN
IN BIRMINGHAM AREA



**DON'T REPLACE IT—
REFACE IT!**

Call Today for a Free
In-Home Estimate

Doors & Drawers

Cabinet Refacing In Quality Hardwoods.

Birmingham
4807 N. Woodward • 549-1161

Ann Arbor
3157 Packard • 971-0800