

NHLA Grading Rules

	FAS	F1F	S	#1 COM	#2A & #2B	#3A COM	#3B COM	FAS Limits	NOTES
Minimum Size Board	6" X 8'	Same as FAS for species being graded	4" X 6'	3" X 4'	3" X 4'	3" X 4'	3" X 4'	Pith: SM in inches Wane: 1/2 Length Knot: 1/3 SM Warp: Entire board must be flat enough to S2S to S.S.T. Splits: Not to exceed 2 x SM or 12", whichever is greater Splits shall not diverge 1" in 12" First Lineal Rule: Applies to both ends of board. To contain not less than 50% clear wood, 25% sound wood	FAS (FIRST AND SECONDS) Provides long, wide, clear cuttings. Best suited for high quality work. Must yield 83-1/3% to 100% clear wood in cuttings at least 3" x 7' or 4" x 5.' SELECT & BETTER Both faces of the board are used in determining this grade. Best face must meet FAS, reverse must essentially grade No. 1 Common. NO. 1 COMMON Provides clear cuttings of medium length and width. Includes a range of boards which will yield from 66-2/3% to 83-1/3% clear wood in minimum sized cuttings at least 3" x 3' or 4" x 2.'
Minimum Size Cutting	4" X 5' 3" X 7'	Better Face to Grade FAS Poor Face to Grade #1 Common		4" X 2' 3" X 3'	3" X 2'	3" X 2'	Not less than 1-1/2" wide containing 36 sq. inches		
Basic Yield	SM X 10 83-1/3%			SM X 8 66-23%	SM X 6 50%	SM X 4 33-1/3%	SM X 3 25%		
Formula To Determine Number of Cuts	$\frac{SM}{4}$ (4 max)			$\frac{SM+1}{3}$ (5 max)	SM 2 (7 max)	Unlimited	Unlimited sound cuttings		
SM Needed To Take Extra Cutting	6-15' SM			3-10' SM	YES				
Extra Yield Needed For Extra Cutting	SM X 11 91-2/3%			SM X 9 75%	YES				
Special Yields	97% Rule – 2 cuts full widths any length; Pieces 6" & wider with 6-12' SM SM X 11.64 for yield	97% rule on better face	97% rule on better face 2'X3' SM to be 100% clear of SM X 11 in one cutting	1' SM – 100% 2' SM – SM X 9	1' SM – SM X 8 #2A Com – Clear cuttings #2B Com – Sound cuttings	#2A Com on better face and reverse side of cuttings sound; will also qualify for 3A Com			

NOTE: This chart summarizes the main requirements for the standard grades. For complete information, consult the appropriate section of the NHLA Rule Book.