



U.S. LUMBER

New Heart Pine

FAQ

What is heart pine?

The pine log can be divided into two parts; heartwood and sapwood. Heartwood is cut from the center of the pine tree. It is darker, harder, more stable, and more decay resistant. The rest of the log is "sapwood." (Notice the heartwood is the darker, inner ring on the log to the right.)



Isn't "heart pine" from the long leaf pine tree?

The term "heart pine" can refer to many different things. There is "new" heart pine, "antique" heart pine, "old growth" heart pine, "reclaimed" heart pine, and "river recovered", to name a few. One source of heart pine today is to recycle timber from first generation trees (trees that were standing when the first settlers landed in the 1600s). Most of the trees were long leaf pines, many as old as 300+ years. There were approximately 80,000,000 acres of these trees and almost all were harvested by 1900. This wood was the primary building material for homes and factories. It is now being recycled as heart pine. Most structures built after the early 1900's were from second generation trees and do not exhibit the very tight rings associated with the first generation timber. (Long leaf pine growing region to the left)



What is the difference between "old" and "new" heart pine.

Old heart pine or old growth heart pine refers to heart pine that is from the long leaf pine tree and that is being recycled today through the disassembling of old buildings built with it over a 100 years ago. It is also being recovered from river bottoms in Florida. New heart pine is being cut from trees that are over 100 years old. They are not long leaf, but loblolly pine trees.

What is the heart pine that we will be selling from Ashton Lewis?

It is heart pine that comes from trees that are between 100 and 150 years old. Nearly 95% of it is cut from loblolly pine trees found within 70 miles of Ashton Lewis' mill in northeast North Carolina.

What are the advantages to Ashton Lewis' new heart pine?

1. Price- it is significantly less expensive than reclaimed heart pine. It should run some where between 1/4 to 1/3 the cost of reclaimed
2. Availability- this is an important selling point. Reclaimed can take weeks or months to get. From the dealers perspective, there are few if any reliable, regular suppliers of heart pine. We now have it available out of our warehouses and we can ship special orders with a week to ten day turnaround.
3. Consistency of grade- Each unit will have consistent moisture content, consistent product quality and each grade contains at least 70% heart. What you buy this week will look like what you buy next week.
4. Pattern options- Beaded, Flooring, T & G V jt, as well as other patterns available on request



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Are there published standards for Heart Pine?

The last time professional standards were published for heart pine was 1924. After the forests were cleared of long leaf pine trees, it was determined that they were no longer needed. There are no standards today, so it pays to make sure your customer understands what they are getting.

What are the grades of Ashton Lewis Heart Pine?

We have two grades we will be selling.
The better grade is called **Bennetts Creek**.

- Equivalent to SYP grade rules D & Better.
- 70% or better heartwood



The second grade is called **Merchants Millpond**

- Equivalent to SYP grade rules #2 & Better
- 70% or better heartwood



What does 70% heartwood really mean?

Imagine that you are standing in the middle of a 10' by 10' floor. As you look around, 70% of that floor will be heartwood.

What will we have in our warehouses?

While this will vary slightly by branch, generally we will have:

- 4", 6", 8", flooring
- 6" V-Joint
- 4" Beaded

What widths are available?

It is available in 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12 inch. The 10" and 12" widths are special order

What are the actual widths?

| <u>Size</u> | | <u>Net-Size</u> |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| 1X4 | = | (3/4" X 3-1/8") |
| 1X5 | = | (3/4" X 4-1/8") |
| 1X6 | = | (3/4" X 5-1/8") |
| 1X8 | = | (3/4" X 6-7/8") |

How is the product shipped?

It comes shrink wrapped, 6 boards to a bundle on widths up to 8 inches. The 10 and 12 inch is not shrink wrapped. All lengths are shipped US Lumber in pulled to length units.



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How will we sell it?

It is sold in random lengths.

What lengths will the product ship in?

8-16 ft lengths. In fact 80% of the boards will be 12 ft and longer. This is a big selling point. Traditionally, flooring in general is sold in much shorter, random lengths often beginning with 2 ft lengths.

Are there minimum quantities if we special order?

Minimum quantities will be on a case by case basis. Obviously we would prefer to not set up and run 60 pieces of 16' 1x10 or 1x12 but if they have some left from a previous run, they would pull it to order. Contact your U.S. Lumber sales rep for more information.

What waste factor should I use?

5% should be an acceptable number but this can vary.

What is the moisture content of our new heart pine?

It is kiln dried to 12% moisture. This has been found to be heart pine's Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC).

Will our heart pine change color?

Yes, what you buy today, will look different once it is installed and subject to air and light for an extended period of time. It will generally turn a more reddish hue. We do not make any guarantees as to how much or how little the color will change.

What is the target market for our New Heart Pine?

The primary end user for this product is the repair and remodel market. This is not to say that it will not be used in new construction.

How should Heart Pine be finished?

Finishing a floor like heart pine is a very personal decision. Some people prefer it be finished with some type of tung oil finish while others would prefer it be finished with polyurethane. It is generally recommended that you not stain heart pine, but even this is a matter of personal taste. For more information on finishing heart pine, see the installation instructions at <http://www.southernpine.com/pineflooring6.shtml>.

Does Heart Pine require end matching?

It is not necessary, but each piece should be end trimmed to ensure it is square.

Can Heart Pine be sanded?

Yes, it is standard matched to allow for sanding.

Pricing

Contact your US Lumber sales representative for pricing.