Oregon Lumber Grading Program

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Oregon State University

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Contents

Introduction 1

Purpose and Implementation 2

Scope 2
Certification 3
Selling OLG Lumber and Traceability 3

Standards for Key Physical Attributes of OLG Lumber 4

Lumber Species, Grades and Design Values 4
OLG Dimension Lumber Grades and Correspondence to Industry Grades 4
Moisture Condition 5
Surface Condition 6
Size and Tally 7
Reference Authority for Standards Not Otherwise Specified 8

The OLG Dimension Lumber Grading System 9

Guidelines for using the OLG Dimension Lumber Grading System 9
Oregon Number 2 and Better 10
Oregon Stud 11
Oregon Number 3 12
Summary Table of Oregon Dimension Lumber Grades 12

Written Certification 14

Appendices 15

Appendix 1. Senate Bill 1061, "Oregon Forest to Homes Act" 15
Appendix 2. Size-adjusted Design Values for Oregon Species Lumber 17
Table 2.1 Oregon Douglas-fir/Larch, size adjusted values for dimension lumber 17
Table 2.2 Hem Fir, size adjusted values for dimension lumber 18
Table 2.3 Spruce-Pine-Fir (south), size adjusted values for dimension lumber 19
Appendix 3. Nominal and Standard required thicknesses and widths 20
Table 3.1 Standards for Minimum Thicknesses According to Surface Condition 20
Table 3.2 Standards for Minimum Widths According to Surface Condition 21
Appendix 4. Glossary of Lumber Defects 22
Appendix 5. Summary of limits of 8 characteristics permitted for the Oregon Lumber Grades 26
Appendix 6. Summary of Limiting Provisions for Oregon Local Use Dimension Lumber 27

Table 6.1 Maximum Knot Size (or equivalent) 27
Table 6.2 Maximum hole size (or equivalent) per 2 linear feet for the three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades 28
Table 6.3 Maximum Wane (or equivalent) for three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades 29
Table 6.4 Maximum Slope of Grain on three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades 29
Table 6.5 Maximum Splits for three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades 29
Appendix 7. Twist, Crook, Bow and Cup Tables for Oregon Local Use Lumber 30
Table 7.1 Twist limits by length and width. 30
Table 7.2 Crook limits by length and width 31
Table 7.3 Bow limits 32
Table 7.4 Cup limits 32
Appendix 8. Board Feet of 2" thick lumber of varying widths and lengths 33
Table 8.1 Board feet of 2" thick lumber pieces 33

Introduction

Oregon's primary softwood species used for structural purposes include Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and several true fir species such as grand fir and white fir. These all have excellent mechanical properties for construction applications and most construction lumber for homebuilding in Oregon is graded and thereby assessed for suitability for structural purposes following procedures outlined in the US Department of Commerce's Voluntary Product Standard 20-20, the *American Softwood Lumber Standard*.

Although there are sawmill operations throughout the state, much of the sawing infrastructure has consolidated in recent decades and there are areas of the state with few remaining mills. There are numerous small sawmill enterprises that do not operate at the economy of scale necessary to cover the costs of membership with an accredited lumber grading agency.

In recognition of these circumstances, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 1061, "the Oregon Forests to Homes Act." The act establishes a dimension lumber grading training and certificate program applicable to residential construction in Oregon. The bill was signed into law by Governor Kotek on July 31, 2025. (See Appendix 1.)

The Oregon Lumber Grading program (OLG) described in this document has been developed by the Oregon State University Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Program in consultation with Oregon's Department of Consumer and Business Services' Building Codes Division.

This handbook is the user guide for individuals who are certified under the program. It contains the rules and procedures of the OLG system, explains its relationship to the grademark[1] infrastructure, explains the compatibility of OLG lumber with residential construction codes in Oregon, and describes important program standards and record-keeping requirements that apply in OLG lumber sales.

[1] The terms grademark(ed) and gradestamp(ed) lumber are often used interchangeably

Purpose and Implementation

The Oregon Lumber Grading program is an alternative lumber certification system for Oregon softwood lumber. It is intended to allow, under limited circumstances, structural uses of local-use lumber in home construction where residential building code would otherwise require grademark lumber. OLG lumber is closely aligned with and expected to have similar performance capabilities as grademark lumber of a corresponding grade and species.

In Oregon, there is a uniform statewide building code adopted by the State of Oregon Building Codes Division (BCD). The state building code is then administered locally by approx. 131 municipalities which operate local building inspection programs under the standards set forth by BCD.

Much like grademark lumber, OLG lumber has standards and requirements for certifying the species, grade, moisture content and size of the lumber. These standards generally resemble industry practices, with certain adaptations for applicability to individuals and small- to medium-sized sawmill businesses in Oregon.

This section addresses program authorities and responsibilities, product traceability when the lumber is sold, species allowed for use under the program, standards for nomenclature and measurement of the product, and requirements for additional physical attributes which have implications on structural characteristics of lumber, such as moisture content, surface conditions, and size.

The Oregon State University Extension Service (OSUES) is the administrator of the Oregon Lumber Grading program including providing the certification training, technical assistance and supplemental education. In developing this program, OSUES has worked collaboratively with Oregon's Building Codes Division. The Building Codes Division administers Oregon's Statewide Building Code, which provides uniform standards that ensure newly constructed residential and commercial buildings are safe for citizens to occupy.

Scope

This program has a narrow focus on a lumber grading system comprised of 3 substitute grades of dimension lumber and a set of adapted grading rules designed to produce comparable results to their industry counterparts. **Dimension lumber** in OLG is lumber with a nominal thickness of 2"to 4" and a nominal width of 2" and greater, and which is intended for structural uses in residential construction.

OLG lumber meeting all the necessary conditions which are outlined in the training course and this handbook may be used instead of grade-stamped lumber where required by the state building code for structures governed by the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC). The ORSC governs detached one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses, not more than three stories above grade plane in height; attached stacked two-family dwellings not more than two stories above grade plane in height; and accessory structures not more than three stories above grade plane in height.

Prescriptive construction under application of the ORSC does not limit the allowable species for repetitive sawn lumber stud elements, but does limit the allowable species for sawn lumber floor and roof framing members. These prescriptive species limitations are: Douglas fir-larch, hem-fir, southern-pine, and spruce-pine-fir, as indicated in the prescriptive tables of the ORSC.

In lieu of the prescribed code provisions and species limitations, *nonprescriptive designs* incorporating use of AWC's NDS may be pursued on a project-by-project basis under application of ORSC Chapter 3 Section R301.1.3. See Chapter 2 of the ORSC for the respective definition of *nonprescriptive design*.

Certification

Certified individuals may grade dimension lumber that they have sawn or, in the case of larger operations, lumber produced by their business. In either case, the certificate is awarded to the individual who completed the training requirements, not the sawmill business. The owner of a larger operation that has more than one employee (such as a family operation, partnership, or other small company), may grade lumber sawn by an employee of their business. A person may not grade lumber sawn prior to obtaining certification or lumber obtained from any external source.

The completion of the training program does not allow any person to apply the grade stamp of any established lumber grading bureau, nor make any imprint onto lumber resembling an industry grade stamp.

The primary means for a manufacturer to obtain the Oregon Lumber Grading program certificate is to attend the OSU Extension Service training course and successfully complete the proficiency requirements, which include a written test. It is a one-day training. A participant must be at least 18 years old to be eligible to earn the certificate. Typically, several trainings per year will be offered at locations throughout the state, or as demand warrants. The training program will be offered at a minimum once a year. The certificate is valid for 5 years after the date of issuance and can be renewed by retaking the training and passing the exam. Participants of the program have access to continued technical support and educational resources from OSU Extension Service.

Selling OLG Lumber and Traceability

The lumber may be sold to an end-user, including a person who has been issued a permit to construct a dwelling or a contractor acting on that person's behalf. Participants who successfully complete the training and proficiency requirements are issued a certificate with a unique identification number and date of issue. In order to sell OLG lumber the manufacturer must provide to the purchaser a copy of their certificate of completion of the lumber grading training and documentation of specific physical attributes that pertain to lumber performance, called the "written certification." These records are a crucial part of maintaining the quality standards and traceability of OLG lumber, and as such it is strongly advised that the homeowner retain them indefinitely. Specific details for meeting this requirement are under the section "Written Certification."

Because the Oregon Lumber Grading program is not under the authority of an accredited softwood lumber grading bureau, no special mark is to be affixed to lumber that is produced under the Oregon Lumber Grading program. Imprinting any mark that could be interpreted as imitating an industry grade stamp is prohibited. Instead, grade designations of pieces or bundles of lumber produced under the OLG system must be indicated by color-coding the ends of the pieces of lumber with paint as described below.

Authorized building inspectors at the local level have the authority to require design modifications or reject the use of OLG structural lumber in a dwelling. Manufacturers of OLG lumber have an inherent vested interest in producing a safe and quality product.

Standards for Key Physical Attributes of OLG Lumber

Lumber Species, Grades and Design Values

Wood frame house design calculations rely on design values, which are data about the strength properties of a given species of lumber.

Design values for Oregon softwoods have been developed following an industry-standard process of wood sample stress testing. The American Lumber Standard Committee reviewed and approved the data, resulting in the issuance of design values for five species groups: Douglas-fir/Larch, Hem fir, and Spruce-Pine-Fir (south). Assigning design values to a species group rather than an individual species enables simultaneous processing and grading of different species that have similar mechanical properties, which may also be harvested and transported together.

The 11 species used for OLG dimension lumber:

- Douglas-fir
- western larch
- western hemlock
- California red fir
- grand fir
- noble fir
- Pacific silver fir
- white fir
- Engelmann spruce
- Sitka spruce
- lodgepole pine

The Douglas-fir/Larch group includes Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and western larch (*Larix laricina*). The hem fir species group includes western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), California red fir (*Abies magnifica*), grand fir (*Abies grandis*), noble fir (*Abies procera*), Pacific silver fir (*Abies amabilis*), and white fir (*Abies concolor*). The Spruce-Pine-Fir (south) group includes Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*), and Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*).

Grading and use of dimension lumber under the Oregon Lumber Grading program is restricted to these 11 species because we have design values derived from testing of sample material which have been published by the American Lumber Standards Committee, making them readily compatible with U.S. building code specifications. Further, these species are allowable within the prescriptive construction guidelines in the Oregon Residential Specialty Code as discussed on page 2 above.

In addition to species, dimension lumber is sorted into grades based on defects such as knots and splits that displace longitudinal grain continuity and thus reduce performance. Building design calculations must use the design values for the species *and* grade of lumber to determine maximum allowable spans.

OLG Dimension Lumber Grades and Correspondence to Industry Grades

The program establishes 3 substitute grades for dimension lumber that correspond to accredited Grading Bureau grades within the Structural Light Framing, Light Framing, Structural Joists and Planks, and Stud classifications of dimension lumber.

Dimension lumber that is graded in accordance with the rules of this program may be accepted in place of grade-stamped lumber to meet the requirements of residential building codes for structural lumber in Oregon. To determine design values for an OLG grade, use the substitute equivalent industry grade and match the species to the appropriate Oregon Species group.

The **Oregon Number 2 and Better** grade shall be the substitute equivalent of the “Number 2 grade” within the Structural Light Framing and Structural Joists and Planks classifications and at least equivalent to the “Standard grade” within the Light Framing classification within accepted grading bureau rules for grade-stamped lumber used in residential construction in Oregon.

The **Oregon Stud** grade shall be the substitute equivalent of the “Stud grade” within the Stud classification within the accepted grading bureau rules for grade-stamped lumber used in residential construction in Oregon.

The **Oregon Number 3** grade shall be the substitute equivalent of the "Number 3 grade" within the Structural Light Framing and Structural Joists and Planks classifications and at least equivalent to the "Utility grade" within the Light Framing classification within the accepted grading bureau rules for grade-stamped lumber used in residential construction in Oregon.

OLG Grade Correspondence with Grading Bureau Grades

OLG Grade		Dimension Lumber Grade		Dimension Lumber Classification
OR No. 2 & BTR	Can substitute for	No. 2	Within	Structural Light Framing
		No. 2		Structural Joists and Planks
		Standard		Light Framing
OR Stud		Stud		Stud
OR No. 3		No. 3		Structural Light Framing
		No. 3		Structural Joists and Planks
		Utility		Light Framing

Example

To determine the "Extreme Fiber Stress in Bending (single member)" (F_b) design value of 2x4 Douglas-fir lumber graded as Oregon Number 2 and Better under the OLG grading system:

1. "Oregon Number 2 and Better" is the substitute equivalent of the "No. 2" grade within the Structural Light Framing and Structural Joists and Planks classifications.
2. OLG Douglas-fir is in the "Douglas-fir/Larch" species group.
3. Use the F_b base design value for 2x4 No. 2 Douglas-fir/Larch, which for single members is 1350 lbs/inch^2 and for repetitive members (i.e., if used as joists 24 inches or less on center) it is 1550 lbs/inch^2

Moisture Condition

Lumber produced under the Oregon Lumber Grading Program may be sold either in the **dry** or **green** moisture condition. Both dry and green lumber are suitable for use in construction, although it is not advised to mix green and dry lumber within a horizontal framing system such as floor joists as they acclimate to ambient moisture conditions at different rates.

Dimension lumber is considered "dry" if it has been dried to a maximum **moisture content** (MC) of 19% as measured on the oven dry (OD) basis. Green lumber is lumber that is above 19%. Partially air-dried (PAD) lumber is lumber that is above 19% but the drying process has begun.

Moisture Content: The ratio of the weight of water in wood to the dry weight of the wood material.

Lumber moisture content in the United States is expressed on the OD basis and reflects the weight of water in the piece expressed as a percentage of the bone-dry weight of wood (i.e., the weight of wood with no moisture whatsoever). In practice, for dimension lumber to be considered "dry" 95% of the pieces of lumber in the order are, on average, at or below 19% MC, and no more than 5% of the lumber may be at a MC more than 19% MC.

The drying process will effectively remove all the free water (primarily water that is in the cell lumens, i.e., the pore spaces) in the wood, and about a third of the bound water (water that is in the cell wall itself). Removal of bound water is what causes wood to shrink and warp in the drying process. Wood is constantly exchanging water with the atmosphere to come into equilibrium with the relative humidity and temperature of the air. Lumber MC may be estimated in several ways; for construction purposes, it is typically measured using a handheld moisture meter. These meters do not perform well at MC extremes but perform adequately in the ranges of interest. When the wood is at or above the Fiber Saturation Point (FSP, approximately 25 to 30%) or the wood has a MC less than 6%, these moisture meters are not accurate.

Green = above 19% MC.

Dry = At or below 19% MC

Dimension lumber can be air-dried or kiln-dried. Kiln drying is much faster and provides good control of temperature, relative humidity and airflow but requires investment into the proper equipment. Though it can expedite the drying process, if done improperly, kiln drying can lead to stresses in the wood. In contrast, air drying is slow, particularly in the winter in western Oregon. Proper air drying requires covered space and best practices for stacking boards between stickers.

Two aspects that may be important are that the high temperatures normally used in kiln drying cause resin to "set" and insects and their larvae to be killed. For resinous species, it is often desirable to "set" the resin by evaporating the liquid component so it will not be sticky to handle or cause pitch to build on saws or planers. When the temperature is held for a long enough period, the resin will no longer flow.

Heat-treated lumber is a special designation for lumber specifically targeted to kill insect larvae and is regulated under the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15 (ISPM 15). This additional designation may be included as part of the written certification **only if the lumber has been treated by a certified heat treatment facility**.

Surface Condition

Wood purchased in lumber yards or in retail outlets is typically dried and surfaced on all four sides to a standard thickness and width specified by the American Softwood Lumber Standard Voluntary Product Standard PS 20-20. A 2x4 that conforms to the standard is actually 1.5" by 3.5" in the dry surfaced condition. A green 2x4, on the other hand, measures 1 $^{9}/_{16}$" by 3 $^{9}/_{16}$" with the slightly larger size providing an allowance for shrinkage.

"2x4" references the nominal dimension, which (many decades ago) would have been the size of the board cut green from the log before any surfacing or drying.

Green surfacing of dimension lumber allows the precise sizing of green lumber used in construction. An alternative method of achieving the same end is to directly saw to the standard green surfaced dimension. This is called Sawn-To-Size (STS) and the practice is permitted in the Oregon Lumber Grading Program.

Surfaced Lumber

Surfaced lumber (or dressed lumber) is generally considered lumber that has been surfaced by a machine to attain smoothness of surface and uniformity of size on one or more sides and/or one or more edges. Lumber that has a surfaced edge or side is classified as surfaced width or thickness on the surfaced face and classified as rough width or thickness on the unsurfaced face. The term "Surfaced Lumber" generally refers to lumber surfaced on all 4 surfaces (known as S4S) within the Oregon Lumber Grading program. The following describes the three possible surface cuts of lumber produced in the Oregon Lumber Grading program.

Sawn-To-Size Lumber

This designation is lumber uniformly sawn to the dressed size for surfaced lumber, and not planed on the faces, for use requiring a rough texture or lumber uniformly manufactured to dressed surfaced sizes that may be rough, surfaced or partially surfaced on one or more faces. Some small manufacturers producing lumber are unlikely to have planer equipment allowing them to produce S4S lumber. These producers are expected to saw to an actual thickness at least equaling the required minimum thicknesses for the green conditions, which can

be found under Appendix 3.

Rough Lumber

Rough lumber is lumber that has been sawed, edged, and trimmed at least to the extent of showing saw or other primary manufacturing marks. The rough lumber designation is not the same as the sawn-to-size lumber designation even though the appearance may be similar. If the rough lumber is to be sold as "dry" it needs to be at least ⅛ inch greater than the standard dry surfaced size to allow for the removal of wood in surfacing. If it is to be sold as green, then the actual widths and thicknesses to account for both shrinkage and surfacing shall be specified on the written certification provided to the purchaser.

Size and Tally

Thickness and Width

Standard sizes (actual thickness and width) of "Surfaced Lumber" and "Sawn-To-Size Lumber" are to be considered the actual minimum sizes as specified for the Oregon dimension lumber grades and in the American Softwood Lumber Standard Voluntary Product Standard PS 20-20 for lumber that is surfaced in the dry or green conditions as appropriate (see Appendix 3). Somewhat larger sizes may be used for the nominal thickness, the nominal width, or both, but the larger size shall be clearly specified on the written certification provided by the mill to the purchaser.

If "rough lumber" is to be sold as "dry lumber", the minimum dry rough dimensions (thickness and width) must be at least ⅛ inch greater than those required for the standard minimum size for dry surfaced lumber to allow for the removal of wood in surfacing (see Appendix 3). For any "rough lumber" that is to be sold as "green lumber" the actual green target dimensions shall be specified on the written certification that the mill provides to the purchaser.

Length

The standard lengths of lumber shall be 8 feet and greater in even two-foot length multiples (8, 10, 12, 14, 16, etc.) unless the purchase agreement specifically stipulates the use of one-foot standard length multiples or any standard length less than 8 feet. Any variance from the two-foot standard length starting at 8 feet will be specified in the written certification that the mill will provide the purchaser.

Trim Requirements

The standard trim requirements (unless otherwise specified in the purchase agreement) is that the lumber shall be trimmed for the removal of excessive spur and splintered ends but the lumber does not have to be double-end-trimmed. If double-end trimmed, the minimum length of lumber sold under the Oregon Lumber Grading Program shall not be less than the nominal length. If not double-end trimmed, there shall be at least sufficient over-length to easily square-trim the lumber to nominal length. Overall length should not be more than 12 inches greater than nominal length. Any variance in trim practices shall be specified on the written certification that the mill will provide the purchaser.

Board feet calculation examples:

Example 1. Single 8-foot length of 2×4

Step 1: W × T × L

2 × 4 × 8 = 64

Step 2: Divide by 12

64/12 = 5.3 BF

Example 2. 37 boards, each 10-foot length of 2×8

Step 1: W x T x L

2 × 8 × 10 = 160

Step 2: Divide by 12

160/12 = 13.3 BF

Step 3: Multiply by number of boards

37 × 13.3 BF = 492.1 BF

Tally Reporting Requirements

Lumber sold under the Oregon Lumber Grading program that is being used in residential construction may be sold as a piece price, a price per board foot (BF) or a price per thousand board feet (MBF).

The formula for calculating the board foot contents of a piece is: the nominal width (in inches) multiplied by the

nominal thickness (in inches) multiplied by the nominal (or standard) length in feet and dividing the total by 12 and rounding to the nearest 1/10th board foot, then multiplying by the number of pieces.

Board Feet (BF) = (Width × Thickness × Length) ÷12

Note: width and thickness are in inches; length is in feet

A table of calculations for the board foot contents of common sizes of dimension lumber is provided in Appendix 8. Cubic measures of lumber shall not be permitted for sale of lumber used for residential construction.

Reference Authority for Standards Not Otherwise Specified

For anything not specified within this document and related tables and companion information developed for the instructional program under The Oregon Lumber Grading program, the Voluntary Product Standard PS 20-20 *American Softwood Lumber Standard* shall be the reference authority.

The OLG Dimension Lumber Grading System

Guidelines for using the OLG Dimension Lumber Grading System

The overall requirements and limitations of the Oregon lumber grading rules have been simplified in certain cases with respect to accredited lumber grading agency rules. In some cases, OLG limiting provisions are more restrictive than their industry counterpart grades (examples would be the limiting provisions for knots, holes, and unsound wood).

These grading rules apply exclusively to grading dimension lumber meeting all of the following criteria: having nominal dimensions 2 inches to 4 inches thick, and nominal 2 inches or greater in width; is one of the softwood species included in WCLIB *Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber 2024;* and is intended for use in residential construction in Oregon.

In the OLG grading process, the entire piece of lumber must be examined, including a separate visual inspection of each wide and each narrow face. Any defect apparent on any face that exceeds the limiting provisions for the grade will exclude that piece of lumber from making the grade. Take note of whether the grading rule is based on the nominal or the actual dimensions of the piece.

Sub-sorting lumber within a grade is prohibited.

A shipment unit of graded lumber should never contain only the lowest possible grouping of pieces barely meeting grade (or only the highest possible grouping of pieces). It must include all lumber that would grade between the next higher grade (above) and the next lower grade (below). To this end, it is clearly inappropriate to sub-sort a grade, selecting the best specimens for some special market or purpose and aggregating the poorest pieces that barely make grade and then to represent (misrepresent) those pieces as being a normal grade mix of lumber.

The following pages describe the limiting provisions for various defects for the three substitute Oregon grades. Important supplemental information is found in Appendix 4, "Glossary of Lumber Defects." A summary table of the limiting characteristics for all grades appears in Appendix 5. Addition-al tables summarizing limiting characteristics for each defect can be found under Appendix 6.

Oregon Number 2 and Better

Nominal 2”-4” thick, 2” and wider

Characteristics permitted and limiting provisions:

Checks – Seasoning checks are not limited. Through checks at the end are limited as splits.

Holes (any cause and includes unsound wood, unsound knots, loose knots, and not firmly fixed knots) — Not to exceed the equivalent of ¼ the nominal width of the piece (or equivalent smaller holes per 2 lineal feet).

Knots – Sound, firm, encased and pith knots if tight and well-spaced, are permitted in sizes not to exceed the equivalent of ¼ the nominal width of the piece.

Manufacture – Manufacturing imperfections allowed – Admits heavy torn grain, heavy raised grain, heavy loosened grain; heavy machine bite; heavy machine gouge; heavy machine offset; heavy chip marks; knife and saw marks; heavy wavy dressing and sawing variation; and heavy mismatch.

Shake – Shake through at ends, limited as splits. Away from ends, shakes (including through shakes) up to 2 feet long are permitted.

Skips (or Scant) – Heavy. Lumber may be completely or partly surfaced, or entirely rough. If surfaced, may have skips in places up to ⅛ inch deep, or if rough, may be scant in places up to ⅛ inch scant. The areas of skip (or scant) are not to exceed 2 feet in length in any one occurrence.

Slope of grain – 1 in 8

Splits – Equal in length to 1½ (1.5) times the nominal width of the piece.

Unsound wood – Not permitted in nominal thicknesses over 2 inches. In 2-inch lumber to be considered as holes and included within the limiting provisions for holes.

Wane – ⅓ the actual thickness and ⅓ the actual width on each face, combined not to exceed ½ the thickness or ½ the width at any point.

Warp – Light. (See Appendix 6 for limits of crook, bow, cup and twist for different piece sizes.)

White speck and honeycomb – Considered as holes and included within the limiting provisions for holes.

Lumber to be end-painted or otherwise marked BLUE

Oregon Stud

Nominal 2”-4” thick, 2” and wider

Characteristics permitted and limiting provisions:

Checks – Seasoning checks not limited. Through checks at end are limited as splits.

Holes (any cause – and includes unsound wood) – Not to exceed the equivalent of ⅓ the nominal width of the piece (or equivalent smaller holes per 2 lineal feet).

Knots – Well-spaced knots of any quality are permitted in sizes not to exceed the equivalent ⅓ the nominal width of the piece.

Manufacture – Manufacturing imperfections allowed – Admits heavy torn grain, heavy raised grain, heavy loosened grain; heavy machine bite; heavy machine gouge; heavy machine offset; heavy chip marks; knife and saw marks; heavy wavy dressing and sawing variation; and heavy mismatch.

Shake – Surface shakes permitted. If shake through at ends, limited as splits. Elsewhere through shakes permitted up to ⅓ the length, scattered along the length.

Skips (or Scant) – Heavy. (Lumber may be completely or partly surfaced, or entirely rough. If surfaced, may have skips in places up to ⅛ inch deep, or if rough, may be scant in places up to ⅛ inch scant. The areas of skip (or scant) are not to exceed 2 feet in length in any one place.)

Slope of grain –1 in 4.

Splits – Equal in length to twice the nominal width of the piece.

Unsound wood – Considered as holes and included within the limiting provisions for holes.

Wane – May equal ⅓ the thickness and one-half the width, on each face, combined not to exceed ½ the thickness or ¾ the width at any point.

Warp – Light (see Appendix 6 for limit of crook, bow, cup and twist for different piece sizes.)

White speck and honeycomb – Considered as holes and included within the limiting provisions for holes.

Lumber to be end-painted or otherwise marked RED

Oregon Number 3

Nominal 2”-4” thick, 2” and wider

Characteristics permitted and limiting provisions:

Checks – Seasoning checks not limited. Through checks at end are limited as splits.

Holes – (Any cause and includes unsound wood) Not to exceed the equivalent of ⅓ the nominal width of the piece (or equivalent smaller holes per 2 lineal feet).

Knots – Well-spaced knots of any quality are permitted in sizes not to exceed the equivalent of ⅓ the nominal width of the piece.

Manufacture – Manufacturing imperfections allowed – Admits heavy torn grain, heavy raised grain, heavy loosened grain; heavy machine bite; heavy machine gouge; heavy machine offset; heavy chip marks; knife and saw marks; heavy wavy dressing and sawing variation; and heavy mismatch.

Shake – Surface shakes permitted. If shake through at ends, limited as splits. Elsewhere through shakes permitted up to ⅓ the length, scattered along the length.

Skips (or scant) – Heavy. (Lumber may be completely or partly surfaced, or entirely rough. If surfaced, may have skips in places up to ⅛ inch deep, or if rough, may be scant in places up to ⅛ inch scant. The areas of skip (or scant) are not to exceed 2 feet in length in any one place.)

Slope of grain –1 in 4.

Splits – Equal in length to twice the nominal width of the piece.

Unsound wood – Considered as holes and included within the limiting provisions for holes.

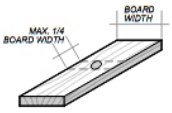
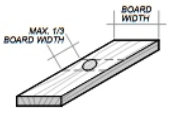
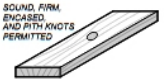
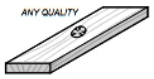
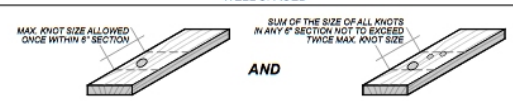
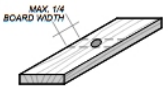
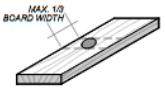
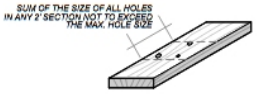
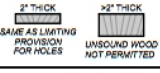
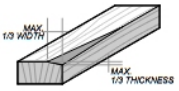
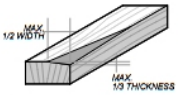
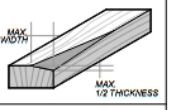
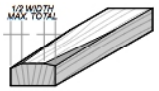
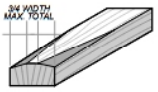
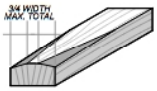
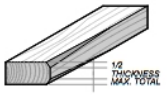
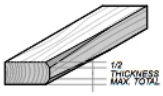
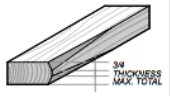
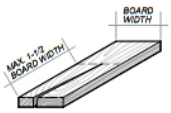
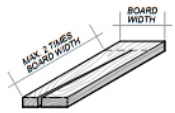
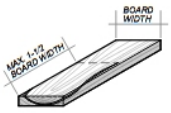
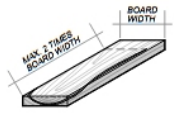
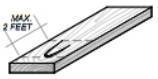
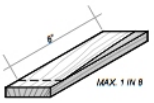
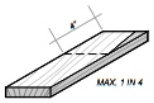
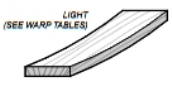
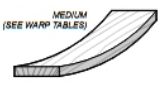
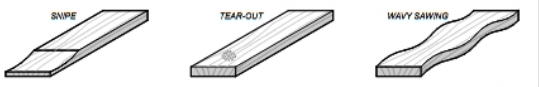
Wane – ½ the thickness and ½ the width, on each face; combined not to exceed ¾ the thickness or ¾ the width at any point.

Warp – Medium (Appendix 6 for limits of crook, bow, cup and twist for different piece sizes.)

White speck and honeycomb – Considered as holes and included within the limiting provisions for holes.

Lumber to be end-painted or otherwise marked GREEN

SUMMARY TABLE OF OREGON DIMENSION LUMBER GRADES

Reference Dimension	Defect Type	Criteria	#2 & Better	Stud	#3
Nominal Width and Thickness	Knots	Max. Permitted Knot Size (Diameter)			
		Quality			
		Spacing	WELL SPACED 		
	Holes	Max. Size			
		Spacing			
	Unsound Wood	Size & Spacing		SAME AS LIMITING PROVISION FOR HOLES	
Actual Width and Thickness	Wane	Max. from one Edge			
		Total Wane - Width			
		Total Wane - Thickness			
Nominal Width	Split	Max. Length			
	Shake	End Shake - Through			
Standard Length		Shake not at End		SURFACE SHAKES PERMITTED 	
Actual	Slope of Grain	Deviation from Edge per Length			
Nominal	Warp	Severity			
	Manufacturing	Severity	IMPERFECTIONS PERMITTED UP TO 1/8" 		

Designed by Wayne Lavey

Written Certification

It is a requirement of the Oregon Lumber Grading program that when OLG lumber is sold the producer must provide a valid copy of their certificate of completion of the Oregon Lumber Grading training and a written certification of the milled product. The written certification is a key component of product traceability and quality assurance in the Oregon Lumber Grading program. This document must include the name of the OLG certified grader (and if applicable the name of their sawmill business). The document must also certify each of the following five physical attributes of the lumber:

1. **Designation of Grade**
   a. **Required**: Indicate the grade of the lumber: Oregon Number 2 and Better; Oregon Stud; or Oregon Number 3.
2. **Designation of Species**
   a. **Required:** Designate the appropriate species group of the lumber: Douglas-fir/Larch, Hem fir, or Spruce-Pine-Fir (south).
   b. **Optional:** Indicate the exact species of the lumber.
3. **Designation of Moisture Content**
   a. **Required**: The lumber must be certified as being either "green" or "dry."
   b. **Optional**: Additional moisture condition information may be included, such as partially air-dried (PAD), kiln-dried, or heat-treated.
4. **Designation of Wood Surface Conditions**
   a. **Required**: The lumber must be certified as one of the following: "Surfaced Lumber," "Sawn-To-Size Lumber" or "Rough Lumber." Tables 3.1 and 3.2 provide standard minimum thicknesses and widths for lumber in each category. For lumber sold "green" and "rough," the actual thickness and width must be indicated.
5. **Designation of Lumber Sizes and Tally**
   a. **Required**: There shall be a total tally of the lumber based on the number of pieces per nominal thickness, width and standard length and the total board feet.
   b. **Optional**: If there are any deviations from the prescribed standard minimum thicknesses and widths for the surface condition category of the lumber (see Appendix 3) this should be explained on the form.

If a transaction of OLG lumber includes different species groups or multiple grades of lumber, a separate written certification form must be provided for each species and grade. The colors corresponding with grade described above will serve to distinguish grades in situations when a mill provides a purchaser more than one grade of lumber.

Before conducting a sale of OLG lumber, review the "Standards for Physical Attributes of Oregon Lumber Grading Program Lumber" section of this handbook, which details important program standards.

A template form for the written certification is provided as a fillable PDF form, which can be downloaded or printed from the program website: https://owic.oregonstate.edu/lumber-grading

Appendices

Appendix 1. Senate Bill 1061, "Oregon Forest to Homes Act"

83rd OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2025 Regular Session

Enrolled

Senate Bill 1061

Sponsored by Senator NASH; Senator SMITH DB, Representatives LEVY B, OWENS, WRIGHT

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to a lumber grading training program.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon State University Extension Service shall, in consultation with the Department of Consumer and Business Services, establish a basic lumber grading training pilot program to be offered annually through the extension service. Establishment of the pilot program under this subsection must include a determination of the:

(a) General requirements for successfully completing the pilot program.

(b) Requirements for initial certification and recertification.

(c) Content of the pilot program. At minimum, the content of the pilot program must include:

(A) A minimum of eight instructional hours, including hands-on practice with physical lumber samples; and

(B) Instruction in regionally relevant species identification, moisture content considerations and visual grading criteria for structural dimension lumber.

(d) Certification requirements for instructors teaching the pilot program. At minimum, to be certified instructors must:

(A) Demonstrate substantial expertise in visual lumber grading through:

(i) A valid grader certification from an organization that administers an accreditation program for the grademarking of lumber produced under a system that is the basis for the sale and purchase of softwood lumber;

(ii) Seven years of professional experience in lumber grading, quality control or wood products education, with demonstrated knowledge of visual grading rules applicable to regionally relevant species; or

(iii) Equivalent qualifications approved by the extension service based on professional history, training and relevant industry involvement; and

(B) Maintain continued competency through industry involvement, refresher coursework or other methods approved by the extension service.

(2) The extension service shall issue certifications and recertifications to those individuals who have successfully completed the pilot program.

(3) An individual who holds an initial certification as having successfully completed the pilot program must be recertified every five years.

SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Self-graded lumber" means lumber graded by an individual who is certified to grade lumber through the pilot program established under section 1 of this 2025 Act.

(b) "Third-party graded lumber" means lumber bearing a valid grade stamp from a grading agency accredited

by an organization that administers an accreditation program for the grademarking of lumber produced under a system that is the basis for the sale and purchase of softwood lumber.

(2) The Department of Consumer and Business Services shall establish by rule a process by which a builder, designer or owner may use lumber that is tested and approved by an individual who is certified under section 1 of this 2025 Act.

(3) The process established under subsection (2) of this section:

(a) May not establish, create or accept any new grade or design value as part of the state's building code.

(b) Shall permit the use of self-graded lumber only for structures that are subject to the Oregon Residential Specialty Code.

(c) Shall require that the intent of a builder, design professional, contractor and homeowner to use self-graded lumber must be disclosed in writing at the time of the building permit application. Disclosure under this paragraph must be made to an inspector who is licensed by the department or a municipality administering and enforcing a building inspection program. The writing required under this paragraph must be filed with the county clerk, who shall make the writing a part of the permanent deed record of the property.

(d) Shall include that the lumber used for self-graded lumber must originate from a known source, requiring a documented relationship or permit between the lumber owner and the purchaser of the milled lumber.

(4)(a) No manufacturer, distributor, wholesaler, retailer or grader of third-party graded lumber may be held liable in whole or in part for a failure of or defect in self-graded lumber incorporated in the same structure.

(b) This subsection applies only to structures permitted under subsection (3)(b) of this section in which self-graded lumber is incorporated.

SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this 2025 Act are repealed on January 2, 2033.

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Passed by Senate April 28, 2025

Repassed by Senate June 23, 2025

.....
Obadiah Rutledge, Secretary of Senate

.....
Rob Wagner, President of Senate

Passed by House May 29, 2025

.....
Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2025

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2025

.....
Tina Kotek, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2025

.....
Tobias Read, Secretary of State

Appendix 2. Size-adjusted Design Values for Oregon Species Lumber

Table 2.1 Oregon Douglas-fir/Larch, size adjusted values for dimension lumber

Douglas-fir/Larch									
Size 2" to 4" thick by	Grade	Extreme Fiber Stress in Bending, Fb			Tension Parallel to Grain	Horizontal Shear	Compression		Modulus of elastic-ity
		2'&3" Thick		4" thick			Perpen-dicular to Grain	Parallel to Grain	
		single	repetitive	single	Ft	Fv	Fc-Perp	Fc	E
2"-4" wide (2x2, 2X3,2X4, 3X3, 3X4, 4X4)	No. 2	1350	1550	1350	860	180	625	1550	1,600,000
	No. 3	790	910	790	490	180	625	890	1,400,000
	Stud	770	890	770	495	180	625	890	1,400,000
6" Wide (2X6, 3X6, 4X6)	No. 2	1170	1350	1170	750	180	625	1485	1,600,000
	No. 3	680	785	680	420	180	625	850	1,400,000
	Stud	700	805	700	450	180	625	850	1,400,000
8" Wide (2X8, 3X8, 4X8)	No. 2	1080	1240	1170	690	180	625	1420	1,600,000
	No. 3 / Stud	630	725	680	390	180	625	810	1,400,000
10" Wide (2X10, 3X10, 4X10)	No. 2	990	1140	1080	630	180	625	1350	1,600,000
	No. 3 / Stud	580	660	630	360	180	625	775	1,400,000
12" Wide (2X12, 3X12, 4X12)	No. 2	900	1035	990	575	180	625	1350	1,600,000
	No. 3 / Stud	525	9\600	580	325	180	625	775	1,400,000
14" & Wider (2X14 & wider, 3X14 & wider, 4X14 & wider)	No. 2	810	930	900	520	180	625	1215	1,600,000
	No. 3 / Stud	470	540	525	290	180	625	700	1,400,000

Information from WCLIB *Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber 2024*

Appendix 2 (continued). Size-adjusted Design Values for Oregon Species Lumber

Table 2.2 Hem Fir, size adjusted values for dimension lumber

Hem Fir									
Size 2" to 4" thick by	Grade	Extreme Fiber Stress in Bending, Fb			Tension Parallel to Grain	Horizontal Shear	Compression		Modulus of elastic-ity
		2'&3" Thick		4" thick			Perpen-dicular to Grain	Parallel to Grain	
		single	repetitive	single	Ft	Fv	Fc-Perp	Fc	E
2"-4" wide (2x2, 2X3,2X4, 3X3, 3X4, 4X4)	No. 2	1280	1470	1275	790	150	405	1495	1,300,000
	No. 3	750	860	750	450	150	405	830	1,200,000
	Stud	740	850	740	440	150	405	840	1,200,000
6" Wide (2X6, 3X6, 4X6)	No. 2	1105	1270	1105	680	150	405	1430	1,300,000
	No. 3	650	750	650	390	150	405	800	1,200,000
	Stud	675	780	675	400	150	405	800	1,200,000
8" Wide (2X8, 3X8, 4X8)	No. 2	1020	1170	1105	630	150	405	1365	1,300,000
	No. 3 / Stud	600	690	650	360	150	405	761	1,200,000
10" Wide (2X10, 3X10, 4X10)	No. 2	935	1075	1020	580	150	405	1300	1,300,000
	No. 3 / Stud	550	630	600	330	150	405	725	1,200,000
12" Wide (2X12, 3X12, 4X12)	No. 2	850	980	935	525	150	405	1300	1,300,000
	No. 3 / Stud	500	575	550	300	150	405	725	1,200,000
14" & Wider (2X14 & wider, 3X14 & wider, 4X14 & wider)	No. 2	765	880	850	470	150	405	1170	1,300,000
	No. 3 / Stud	450	520	500	270	150	405	650	1,200,000

Information from WCLIB *Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber 2024*

Appendix 2. Size-adjusted Design Values for Oregon Species Lumber

Table 2.3 Spruce-Pine-Fir (south), size adjusted values for dimension lumber

Spruce-Pine-Fir (south)									
Size 2" to 4" thick by	Grade	Extreme Fiber Stress in Bending, Fb			Tension Parallel to Grain	Horizontal Shear	Compression		Modulus of elastic-ity
		2'&3" Thick		4" thick			Perpen-dicular to Grain	Parallel to Grain	
		single	repetitive	single	Ft	Fv	Fc-Perp	Fc	E
2"-4" wide (2x2, 2X3,2X4, 3X3, 3X4, 4X4)	No. 2	1160	1340	1160	525	135	335	1150	1,100,000
	No. 3	675	780	675	300	135	335	661	1,000,000
	Stud	660	760	660	300	135	335	660	1,000,000
6" Wide (2X6, 3X6, 4X6)	No. 2	1010	1160	1010	455	135	335	1100	1,100,000
	No. 3	585	670	585	260	135	335	630	1,000,000
	Stud	600	690	600	275	135	335	625	1,000,000
8" Wide (2X8, 3X8, 4X8)	No. 2	930	1070	1010	420	135	335	1050	1,100,000
	No. 3 / Stud	540	620	585	240	135	335	600	1,000,000
10" Wide (2X10, 3X10, 4X10)	No. 2	850	980	930	385	135	335	1000	1,100,000
	No. 3 / Stud	495	570	540	220	135	335	575	1,000,000
12" Wide (2X12, 3X12, 4X12)	No. 2	775	890	850	350	135	335	1000	1,100,000
	No. 3 / Stud	450	520	495	200	135	335	575	1,000,000
14" & Wider (2X14 & wider, 3X14 & wider, 4X14 & wider)	No. 2	700	800	775	315	135	335	900	1,100,000
	No. 3 / Stud	405	470	450	180	135	335	520	1,000,000

Information from WCLIB *Standard Grading Rules for West Coast & Imported Softwood Lumber 2024*

Appendix 3. Nominal and Standard required thickness and widths for the Oregon Lumber Grading Program

Table 3.1 Standards for Minimum Thicknesses According to Surface Condition

Minimum thickness (inches)				
Nominal Thickness	Minimum Dry Lumber Standard	Minimum Green Lumber Standard*	Minimum Standard	Minimum suggested*
	Surfaced or Sawn-to-size	Surfaced or Sawn-to-size	Dry Rough Lumber	Green Rough Lumber
2	1½ (1.5)	$1\ ^{9}/_{16}$ (1.563)	1⅝ (1.625)	$1\ ^{11}/_{16}$(1.688)
2½	2	2 1/16 (2.063)	2⅛ (2.125)	$2\ ^{3}/_{16}$ (2.188)
3	2½ (2.5)	$2\ ^{9}/_{16}$ (2.563)	2⅝ (2.625)	2¾ (2.75)
3½	3	3 1/16 (3.063)	3⅛ (3.125)	3¼ (3.25)
4	3½ (3.5)	$3\ ^{9}/_{16}$ (3.563)	3⅝ (3.625)	$3\ ^{13}/_{16}$ (3.813)

*Note: For green sawn-to-size and green rough lumber, these minimum suggested dimensions may not be adequate starting points. Based on species, the initial moisture content of the wood and other factors, larger initial dimensions may be required to reach the target thickness after shrinkage due to drying.

Appendix 3 (continued). Nominal and Standard Required Thicknesses and Widths

Table 3.2 Standards for Minimum Widths According to Surface Condition

Minimum width (inches)				
	Minimum Dry Lumber Standard	Minimum Green Lumber Standard*	Minimum Standard	Suggested Minimum*
Nominal Width	Surfaced or Sawn-to-size	Surfaced or Sawn-to-size	Dry Rough Lumber	Green Rough Lumber
In inches	In inches	In inches	In inches	In inches
2	1½ (1.5)	$1\ ^{9}/_{16}$ (1.563)	1⅝ (1.625)	$1\ ^{11}/_{16}$ (1.688)
2½	2	$2\frac{1}{16}$ (2.063)	2⅛ (2.125)	$2\ ^{3}/_{16}$ (2.188)
3	2½ (2.5)	$2\ ^{9}/_{16}$ (2.563)	2⅝ (2.563)	2¾ (2.75)
3½	3	$3\frac{1}{16}$ (3.063)	3⅛ (3.125)	3¼ (3.25)
4	3½ (3.5)	$3\ ^{9}/_{16}$ (3.563)	3⅝ (3.625)	$3\ ^{13}/_{16}$ (3.813)
4½	4	$4\frac{1}{16}$ (4.063)	4⅛ (4.125)	$4\ ^{5}/_{16}$ (4.313)
5	4½ (4.5)	4⅝ (4.625)	4⅝ (4.625)	4⅞ (4.875)
6	5½ (5.5)	5⅝ (5.625)	5⅝ (5.625)	5⅞ (5.875)
8	7¼ (7.25)	7½ (7.5)	7⅜ (7.375)	$7\ ^{11}/_{16}$ (7.688)
10	9¼ (9.25)	9½ (9.5)	9⅜ (9.375)	9¾ (9.75)
12	11¼ (11.25)	11½ (11.5)	11⅜ (11.375)	11⅞ (11.875)
14	13¼ (13.25)	13½ (13.5)	13⅜ (13.375)	$13\ ^{15}/_{16}$ (13.938)
16	15¼ (15.25)	15½ (15.5)	15⅜ (15.375)	15.99

*Note: For green sawn-to-size and green rough lumber, these minimum suggested dimensions may not be adequate starting points. Based on the initial moisture content of the wood and other factors, larger initial dimensions may be required to reach the target width after shrinkage due to drying.

Appendix 4. Glossary of Lumber Defects

Checks

A check is a separation of the wood that normally occurs across or through the wood growth rings (i.e., normally in the tangential or radial dimension). Usually a result of the drying process.

- **a.** A surface check occurs on a width or thickness face of a piece.
- **b.** A through check will extend from one surface face to an opposite or adjoining surface (e.g., completely through from one wide face to another, or from a wide face to an edge face).

Holes

A hole may extend completely or partially through the piece. A hole may result from various causes including mechanical actions, insects (in the case of smaller holes), and the sloughing of loose (black) knots. The sizes of holes are measured in the same fashion as knots. Size classification of holes are as follows:

- **a.** A pin hole is not more than $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in diameter.
- **b.** A medium hole is larger than a pin hole but not more than ¼ inch in diameter.
- **c.** A large hole is larger than a medium hole but not more than 1 inch in diameter.
- **d.** A very large hole is more than 1 inch in diameter.

Knots

A knot is a portion of a branch or a limb that is overgrown by the tree and has become incorporated into the piece of lumber, that is further classified as to occurrence, form, quality and size as being:

- **a.** A **sound knot** contains no decay while an **unsound knot** contains decay
- **b.** A **firm knot** is solid across its face but contains incipient decay
- **c.** An **encased knot** is a knot that is not intergrown with the growth rings of the surrounding wood.
- **d.** A **pith knot** is sound in all respects except that it contains a pith hole that is not more than 0.25 inches in diameter.
- **e.** A **tight knot** is so fixed (by growth, shape or position) that it retains its place, or is held in place in the piece while a **loose knot** or a **not firmly fixed knot** is one which is not so fixed by growth shape or position such that it will not be held tightly in place in the piece.
- **f.** **Well-spaced knots** means that the sum of the sizes of all knots in any 6-inch length cannot exceed twice the size of the largest permitted knot, more than one knot of maximum size cannot be in any 6-inch piece and the combination of knots must not be serious. The presence of knot clusters where two or more knots are grouped together as a single unit (i.e. knots adjacent to each other) with the fibers of wood deformed around the entire unit should be considered as serious (with respect to meeting the requirement for well-spaced knots) if the area of the knot cluster contained within a surrounding wood area would begin to approach the size limit for well-spaced knots within a six-inch piece.
- **g.** **Well-scattered knots** are not in clusters and occur where each knot is separated from another knot by at least a distance equal to the diameter of the smaller of the two knots.
- **h.** A **round knot** occurs as the result of the limb being cut in the manufacture of the board such that the limb is approximately at right angles to the long axis of the board (and the knot will appear as a cross-section on the face that is more or less “round”). A **spike knot** occurs as a result of the limb being cut either lengthwise or diagonally and the limb will appear as a cross-section on the face that resembles a “spike” that is significantly greater in one dimension than in the other. An **oval knot** is something between these two extremes, which occurs as the limb is cut in the manufacture of the board such that the limb is slightly more than a right angle to the long axis of the board and the knot will appear as a cross-section on the face, as more or less “oval.”

i. A **red knot** occurs as the result of the tree overgrowing a living branch and is intergrown with the surrounding wood. An **intergrown knot** is one where growth rings are partially or completely intergrown on at least one side with the surrounding wood. A **watertight knot** is one where growth rings are completely intergrown on one surface of the piece and the knot is sound on that surface. In contrast, a **black knot** occurs as the result of the tree overgrowing a dead branch and is consequently not intergrown with the surrounding wood.

j. A **star-checked knot** has radial checks.

k. The **size of a knot** is measured directly as the diameter (in inches) for a round knot. For other than round knots the equivalent diameter size is calculated by averaging the measurements of the maximum width of the knot, in inches, on its narrow axis and the maximum length on its long axis.

l. A **pin knot** is not over 0.5 inches in diameter. A **small knot** is not over 0.75 inches in diameter. A **medium knot** is not over 1.5 inches in diameter. A **large knot** is over 1.5 inches in diameter.

Manufacture

All of the OLG grades allow manufacturing imperfections of a modified Standard "F" which is to say that it is a modified version of the least restrictive of the standards accepted by accredited grading bureaus. This recognizes that sawn-to-size lumber in the green condition and other lumber that has not been kiln-dried and that has not been surfaced four sides will be used and sold under this program. This also recognizes that the nature of the mills that will likely produce such lumber will be limited with regard to machine centers and simplifies the limitations for manufacturing imperfections.

Specifics for the characteristics of manufacturing imperfections permitted under the Oregon Lumber Grading program modified Standard "F" are as follows:

a. **Heavy torn grain** allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) in deep (torn grain is a surface irregularity where wood has been torn or broken out by surfacing).

b. **Heavy raised grain** allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) high (raised grain is a surface irregularity where latewood (or summerwood) rises above the earlywood (or springwood)).

c. **Heavy loosened grain** allowed not more than ⅛-inch (0.125 inch) separation (loosened grain is a grain separation or loosening between latewood and earlywood). Heavy machine bite allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) deep (machine bite is a depressed cut of the machine knives at the end of the piece).

d. **Heavy machine gouge** allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) deep. Machine gouge is a groove cut by the machine below the desired line. Heavy machine offset allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) deep. Machine offset is an abrupt dressing variation in the edge of the piece, usually near the end of the piece, that does not reduce the width of the wide surface.

e. **Heavy chip marks** allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) deep. Chip marks are shallow depressions typically caused by shavings (i.e. "chips") getting imbedded in the surface during the surfacing process.

f. **Knife marks and saw marks** allowed as readily visible and uneven to the touch (knife marks and saw marks are imprints of machine knives or saw blades on the surface of the piece).

g. **Heavy wavy dressing and sawing variation** allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) deep (wavy dressing is uneven dressing and sawing variation is thickness variation in a piece resulting from the variation of the saw and other elements of the machine centers within the sawmill).

h. **Heavy mismatch** allowed not more than ⅛ inch (0.125 inch) deep. Mismatch is an uneven fit in worked lumber when adjoining pieces do not meet tightly at all points of contact, and also where the surfaces of adjoining pieces are not in the same plane.

Scant

Scant may occur in green or dry and in rough or surfaced lumber where the lumber is slightly less than the standard or required size. Within the Oregon Lumber Grades for "rough" dry or green lumber that is intended to be sawn-to-size for use without surfacing, some scant undersize may occur in some places on the piece and it is allowed in the same fashion and to the same degree (i.e., not to exceed ⅛ inch in depth and not to exceed 2 feet in length in any one place) for which skip is allowed in surfaced lumber.

Shake

Shake is a lengthwise separation of the wood (primarily along the longitudinal axis) that occurs commonly between or sometimes across the growth rings (i.e. separation along the long axis between or across the annual growth rings).

- **a.** A **surface shake** occurs on only one surface of the piece of lumber.
- **b.** A **through shake** will extend from one surface face to an opposite or adjoining surface (e.g., completely through from one wide face to another or from a wide face to an edge face).

Skips

Skips occur in surfaced lumber in areas where the piece has failed to surface cleanly. A **heavy skip** is a skip that is not more than ⅛ inch deep.

Slope of Grain

Slope of grain is the deviation of the wood fiber from a line that is parallel to the edges of the piece (i.e. the grain of the wood is not parallel to the edge of the piece). The slope of grain deviation is expressed as a ratio, such as 1 in 8, representing there is 1 inch in deviation between the grain of the wood and the line parallel for every 8 inches of length.

Splits

A split is a separation of the wood due to the tearing apart of the wood cells that occurs through the piece to the opposite or an adjacent surface.

Unsound wood (decay)

Results from the attack of wood by any of a number of wood-destroying fungi that leave wood in a disintegrated condition. This is typically reflected by a loss of hardness and the softening of the wood fibers. Some examples include:

- **a.** **Heart center decay**: Forms in the vicinity of the pith in a living tree, does not progress further after the tree is cut.
- **b.** **White speck** is small white or sometimes brown spots caused by a fungus that forms in the living tree, and does not progress further in wood in service.
- **c.** **Honeycomb** is similar to white speck but larger.
- **d.** **Incipient decay** is the very early state of decay where disintegration of the fibers has just begun and the wood has discolored but has not yet disintegrated to the point that it is significantly softened. Incipient decay may be difficult to distinguish from stain, and if sound and not expected to advance or progress to a more disintegrated state, it is not considered as unsound for purposes of grading classification within the Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades. In contrast, the onset of decay of any kind that leaves wood in a disintegrated condition, which typically presents as a loss of hardness and the softening of

the wood fibers, must be considered as unsound wood.

Wane

Bark or the absence of wood from any cause but commonly at what would be the absence of wood due to the cambium layer being included on the edge or a face of a piece of lumber. Wane extended up to full width is allowed in an occasional piece in any Oregon Local Use Lumber Grade if it does not exceed the ⅛-inch depth limits for skips/ scant, is away from the ends, and is less than one foot in length.

Warp

Warp is any deviation from a true (or flat plane) surface. It includes twists, crook, bow and cup, separately or in combination. Warp restrictions are based on average form as it normally occurs, and variations from the average form (such as short kinks) should be considered and appraised according to equivalent effect. Two or more forms of warp in a single piece should be appraised according to combined effect. The Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades allow different amounts of warp for different types between the different grades and sizes of dimension lumber. Depending on the Oregon Lumber Grade, warp that is termed as “Light" or “Medium” may be allowed, for the Number 2 and Better and the Stud Grades as compared to the Number 3 Grade. What is allowed as “Light” warp for the Number 2 and Better and the Stud Grades, as compared to “Medium” warp for the Number 3 Grade, varies according to type of warp and lumber dimensions. Allowed limits for twist vary according to Grade and lumber length and width; allowed limits for crook vary according to Grade and limber length and width; allowed limits for bow vary according to Grade, lumber length and thickness; and allowed limits for cup vary according to width. These specific warp limits are included in Section 4 of the tables below. The different types of warp considered within the Oregon Lumber Grading program are as follows.

a. **Twist** is a deviation flatwise or a combination of flatwise and edgewise, in the form of a curve or spiral. It is measured as the point of distance that the edge of a piece is raised above a flat surface where both edges of the opposite end of the same piece are resting against the same flat surface.

b. **Crook** is a deviation edgewise from a straight line drawn from end to end of the piece (i.e., a straight line from end to end along an edge or a thickness face.) It is measured as the point of greatest distance from the straight line.

c. **Bow** is a deviation flatwise from a straight line drawn from end to end of the piece (i.e. a straight line from end to end along a wide face). It is measured as the point of greatest distance from the straight line.

d. **Cup** is a deviation in the face of a piece, from a straight line drawn from edge to edge of the piece (i.e., a straight line from edge to edge across the wide face). It is measured as the point of greatest distance from the straight line.

Appendix 5. Summary of limits of 8 characteristics permitted for the Oregon Lumber Grades

Defect limits for the three Oregon lumber grades				
Defect Type		OR Number 2 and Better	OR Stud	OR #3
Knots	Max knot size	¼ board width	⅓ board width	
	Quality	Sound, fixed, Encased; no advanced decay	Any quality but not a hole	
	Spacing	Allowed 2 times maximum knot size within 6-inch section		
Holes or non-wane unsound wood	Max size	¼ board width	⅓ board width	
	Spacing	Allowed equivalent of maximum hole size within 2 lineal feet		
Wane	Max from one edge	⅓ width, ⅓ thickness	½ width, ⅓ thickness	½ width, ½ thickness
	Total wane	½ width, ½ thickness	¾ width, ½ thickness	¾ width, ¾ thickness
Split	Max length	1.5 times board width	2 times board width	
Shake	End shake	Limited as splits		
	Through shake not at end	Allowed maximum 2' long	Allowed maximum ⅓ board length	
Slope of Grain	Deviation per length	1 in 8	1 in 4	
Warp	Severity	Light		Medium
Manufacturing	Severity	Heavy		

Appendix 6. Summary of Knots, Hole Size, Wane, Slope of Grain and Splits Limiting Provisions for Oregon Local Use Dimension Lumber

Table 6.1 Maximum Knot Size (or equivalent)

Maximum Knot Size (or equivalent)			
	OR Number 2 and Better	OR Stud Grade	OR Number 3
Nominal Width	Sound firm encased and pith knots if tight and well-spaced	Any quality permitted if well-spaced	Any quality permitted if well-spaced
Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
2	½ (0.5)	⅔ (0.667)	⅔ (0.667)
2½	⅝ (0.625)	⅚ (0.83)	⅚ (0.833)
3	¾ (0.75)	1	1
3½	⅞ (0.875)	1⅙ (1.167)	1⅙ (1.167)
4	1	1 (1.333)	1⅓ (1.333)
4½	1⅛ (1.125)	1½ (1.5)	1½ (1.5)
5	1¼ (1.25)	1⅔ (1.667)	1⅔ (1.667)
6	1½ (1.5)	2	2
8	2	2⅔ (2.667)	2⅔ (2.667)
10	2½ (2.5)	3⅓ (3.333)	3⅓ (3.333)
12	3	4	4
14	3½ (3.5)	4⅔ (4.667)	4⅔ (4.667)
16	4	5⅓ (5.333)	5⅓ (5.333)

Appendix 6 (continued). Summary of Knots, Hole Size, Wane, Slope of Grain and Splits Limiting Provisions for Oregon Local Use Dimension Lumber

***Table 6.2 Maximum hole size (or equivalent) per 2 linear feet for the three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades* (all unsound wood except wane included in "hole" limits, including unsound, loose and not firmly fixed knots).**

Maximum size or equivalent smaller holes per 2 linear feet			
Nominal Width	OR Number 2 and Better	OR Stud Grade	OR Number 3
Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
2	½ (0.5)	⅔ (0.667)	⅔ (0.667)
2.5	⅝ (0.625)	⅚ (0.833)	⅚ (0.833)
3	¾ (0.75)	1	1
3.5	⅞ (0.875)	1⅙ (1.167)	1⅙ (1.167)
4	1	1⅓ (1.333)	1⅓ (1.333)
4.5	1⅛ (1.125)	1½ (1.5)	1½ (1.5)
5	1¼ (1.25)	1⅔ (1.667)	1⅔ (1.67)
6	1½ (1.5)	2	2
8	2	2⅔ (2.667)	2⅔ (2.667)
10	2½ (2.5)	3⅓ (3.333)	3⅓ (3.333)
12	3	4	4
14	3½ (3.5)	4⅔ (4.667)	4⅔ (4.667)
16	4	5⅓ (5.333)	5⅓ (5.333)

Appendix 6 (continued). Summary of Knots, Hole Size, Wane, Slope of Grain and Splits Limiting Provisions for Oregon Local Use Dimension Lumber

Table 6.3 Maximum Wane (or equivalent) for three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades

Maximum wane			
	OR Number 2 and Better	OR Stud	OR Number 3
Each Face	⅓ Thickness full length	⅓ Thickness full length	½ Thickness full length
Each Face	⅓ width full length	½ width full length	½ width full length
Combined Faces	Maximum ½ thickness any point	Maximum ½ thickness any point	Maximum ¾ thickness any point
Combined Faces	Maximum ½ width any point	Maximum ¾ width any point	Maximum ¾ width any point

Table 6.4 Maximum Slope of Grain on three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades

Maximum slope of grain		
OR Number 2 and Better	OR Stud	OR Number 3
1 in 8	1 in 4	1 in 4

Table 6.5 Maximum Splits for three Oregon Local Use Lumber Grades

Maximum splits		
OR Number 2 and Better	OR Stud	OR Number 3
Length equal to 1.5 times width of piece	Length equal to 2 times width of piece	Length equal to 2 times width of piece

Appendix 7. Twist, Crook, Bow and Cup Tables for Oregon Local Use Lumber

Table 7.1 Twist limits by length and width.

Twist limits by length and width							
		Width in inches (nominal)					
Length in Feet	Twist	2 inch	3 &4 inch	5 & 6 inch	8 inch	10 inch	12 inch & <
4 foot	Light	⅛ (0.125)	¼ (0.25)	⅜ (0.375)	½ (0.5)	⅝ (0.625)	¾ (0.75)
	Medium	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅜ (0.375)	½ (0.5)	¾ (0.75)	⅞ (0.875)	1⅛ (1.125)
6 foot	Light	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅜ (0.375)	½ (0.5)	¾ (0.75)	⅞ (0.875)	1⅛ (1.125)
	Medium	$^{9}/_{32}$ (0.281)	½ (0.5)	¾ (0.75)	1⅛ (1.125)	1⅜ (1.375)	1⅝ (1.625)
8 foot	Light	¼ (0.25)	½ (0.5)	¾ (0.75)	1	1¼ (1.25)	1½ (1.5)
	Medium	⅜ (0.375)	¾ (0.75)	1⅛ (1.125)	1½ (1.5)	1⅞ (1.875)	2¼ (2.25)
10 foot	Light	$^{5}/_{16}$ (0.313)	⅝ (0.625)	⅞ (0.875)	1¼ (1.25)	1½ (1.5)	1⅞ (1.875)
	Medium	½ (0.5)	⅞ (0.875)	1⅜ (1.375)	1⅞ (1.875)	2⅜ (2.375)	2¾ (2.75)
12 foot	Light	⅜ (0.375)	¾ (0.75)	1⅛ (1.125)	1½ (1.5)	1⅞ (1.875)	2¼ (2.25)
	Medium	$^{9}/_{16}$ (0.563)	1⅛ (1.125)	1⅝ (1.625)	2¼ (2.25)	2¾ (2.75)	3⅜ (3.375)
14 foot	Light	$^{7}/_{16}$ (0.438)	⅞ (0.875)	1¼ (1.25)	1¾ (1.75)	2⅛ (2.125)	2⅝ (2.625)
	Medium	⅝ (0.625)	1¼ (1.25)	1⅞ (1.875)	2⅝ (2.625)	3¼ (3.25)	3⅞ (3.875)
16 foot	Light	½ (0.5)	1	1½ (1.5)	2	2½ (2.5)	3
	Medium	¾ (0.75)	1½ (1.5)	2¼ (2.25)	3	3¾ (3.75)	4½ (4.5)
18 foot	Light	$^{9}/_{16}$ (0.563)	1⅛ (1.125)	1⅝ (1.625)	2¼ (2.25)	2¾ (2.75)	3⅜ (3.375)
	Medium	⅞ (0.875)	1⅝ (1.625)	2½ (2.5)	3⅜ (3.375)	4¼ (4.25)	5
20 foot and greater	Light	⅝ (0.625)	1¼ (1.25)	1⅞ (1.875)	2½ (2.5)	3⅛ (3.125)	3¾ (3.75)
	Medium	1	1⅞ (1.875)	2¾ (2.75)	3¾ (3.75)	4⅝ (4.625)	5⅝ (5.625)

Table 7.2 Crook limits by length and width.

Crook limits by length and width								
Length	CROOK	2 inch	3 inch	4 inch	5 - 6 inch	8 inch	10 inch	≥ 12 inches
4 foot	Light	¼ (0.25)	¼ (0.25)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅛ (0.125)	$^{1}/_{16}$ (0.063)	$^{1}/_{16}$ (0.063)
	Medium	⅜ (0.375)	⅜ (0.375)	⅜ (0.375)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅛ (0.125)	⅛ (0.125)
6 foot	Light	¼ (0.25)	¼ (0.25)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅛ (0.125)	$^{1}/_{16}$ (0.063)	$^{1}/_{16}$ (0.063)
	Medium	⅜ (0.375)	⅜ (0.375)	⅜ (0.375)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅛ (0.125)	⅛ (0.125)
8 foot	Light	⅜ (0.375)	⅜ (0.375)	⅜ (0.375)	$^{5}/_{16}$ (0.313)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	⅛ (0.125)
	Medium	½ (0.5)	½ (0.5)	½ (0.5)	½ (0.5)	⅜ (0.375)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)
10 foot	Light	¾ (0.75)	⅝ (0.625)	½ (0.5)	$^{7}/_{16}$ (0.438)	⅜ (0.375)	¼ (0.25)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)
	Medium	1⅜ (1.375)	1	¾ (0.75)	⅝ (0.625)	½ (0.5)	$^{7}/_{16}$ (0.438)	⅜ (0.375)
12 foot	Light	1	¾ (0.75)	$^{11}/_{16}$ (0.688)	⅝ (0.625)	½ (0.5)	$^{7}/_{16}$ (0.438)	⅜ (0.375)
	Medium	1½ (1.5)	1⅛ (1.125)	1	⅞ (0.875)	$^{13}/_{16}$ (0.813)	¾ (0.75)	$^{9}/_{16}$ (0.563)
14 foot	Light	1¼ (1.25)	1	⅞ (0.875)	¾ (0.75)	⅝ (0.625)	½ (0.5)	⅜ (0.375)
	Medium	2	1½ (1.5)	1¼ (1.25)	1⅛ (1.125)	1	⅞ (0.875)	¾ (0.75)
16 foot	Light	1⅝ (1.625)	1¼ (1.25)	1	⅞ (0.875)	¾ (0.75)	⅝ (0.625)	½ (0.5)
	Medium	2½ (2.5)	1⅞ (1.875)	1½ (1.5)	1⅜ (1.375)	1⅛ (1.125)	1	⅞ (0.875)
18 foot	Light	2	1⅜ (1.375)	1⅛ (1.125)	1	⅞ (0.875)	¾ (0.75)	⅝ (0.625)
	Medium	3	2$^{1}/_{16}$ (2.063)	1⅝ (1.625)	1½ (1.5)	1¼ (1.25)	1⅛ (1.125)	1
20 foot	Light	2¼ (2.25)	1½ (1.5)	1⅜ (1.375)	1¼ (1.25)	1	⅞ (0.875)	¾ (0.75)
	Medium	3⅜ (3.375)	2¼ (2.25)	2$^{1}/_{16}$ (2.063)	1⅞ (1.875)	1½ (1.5)	1$^{5}/_{16}$ (1.313)	1⅛ (1.125)
22 foot	Light	2½ (2.5)	1¾ (1.75)	1⅝ (1.625)	1½ (1.5)	1¼ (1.25)	1	⅞ (0.875)
	Medium	3¾ (3.75)	2⅝ (2.625)	2$^{7}/_{16}$ (2.438)	2¼ (2.25)	1⅞ (1.875)	1½ (1.5)	1¼ (1.25)
24 foot and longer	Light	3	2	1⅞ (1.875)	1¾ (1.75)	1½ (1.5)	1¼ (1.25)	1
	Medium	4½ (4.5)	3	2¾ (2.75)	2⅝ (2.625)	2¼ (2.25)	1⅞ (1.875)	1⅝ (1.625)

Table 7.3 Bow limits

Bow limits by length and thickness			
	Thickness in inches (nominal)		
Length in Feet	BOW	2 inch	3 and 4 inch
4 & 6 foot	Light	½ (0.5)	¼ (0.25)
	Medium	¾ (0.75)	⅜ (0.375)
8 foot	Light	¾ (0.75)	⅜ (0.375)
	Medium	1	½ (0.5)
10 foot	Light	1½ (1.5)	¾ (0.75)
	Medium	2¾ (2.75)	1⅜ (1.375)
12 foot	Light	2	1
	Medium	3	1½ (1.5)
14 foot	Light	2½ (2.5)	1¼ (1.25)
	Medium	4	2
16 foot and greater	Light	3¼ (3.25)	1⅝ (1.625)
	Medium	5	2½ (0.5)

Table 7.4 Cup limits

Cup limits by length and width						
	Width in inches (nominal)					
CUP	2 & 3 inch	4 inch	5 & 6 inch	8 inch	10 inch	12 inch
Light	1/32	$^{1}/_{32}$ (0.031)	$^{1}/_{16}$ (0.063)	⅛ (0.125)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	¼ (.25)
Medium	1/32	$^{1}/_{16}$ (0.063)	⅛ (0.125)	$^{3}/_{16}$ (0.188)	¼ (0.25)	⅜ (0.375)

Appendix 8. Board Feet of 2” thick lumber of varying widths and lengths

Table 8.1 Board feet of 2" thick lumber pieces

Board feet for 2" thick lumber					
Width (inches)	Length of board (feet)				
	8 foot	10 foot	12 foot	16 foot	20 foot
2 inch	2.7	3.3	4	5.3	6.7
4 inch	5.3	6.7	8	10.7	13.3
6 inch	8	10	12	16	20
8 inch	10.7	13.3	16	21.3	26.7
10 inch	13.3	16.7	20	26.7	33.3
12 inch	16	20	24	32	40