

- **Select grade:** Select grade can be generally regarded as the pinnacle of oak flooring. As straight a grain as possible, no knots larger than 5mm, no sapwood and no checking.
- **Prime (A/B grade):** Aside from the rarely used Select grade, this is the highest grade of oak flooring. It has very few imperfections, such as knots, sapwood, and colour variation. Prime oak flooring is often used where a clean, contemporary look is desired. New builds, high end apartments and the like.
  - **Knots:** No knots larger than 25mm in diameter.
  - **Sapwood:** No more than 20% of the board face can be sapwood.
  - **Colour variation:** Minimal colour variation.
  - **Checking/small splits:** Minimal checking allowed.
- **Character grade:** This grade of oak flooring allows for more natural imperfections - we like to call them character, such as larger knots, sapwood, and colour variation. Character oak flooring can give a more rustic or traditional look to a room while also adding to the intrigue within each individual board.
  - **Knots:** Knots up to 50mm inches in diameter are allowed - either sound or open. Knots can be filled if that option is selected from the drop-down box when placing your order. The filler used will attempt to match as closely as possible the surrounding colour yet cannot be guaranteed and should be viewed as an extra piece of character rather than a flaw.
  - **Sapwood:** Up to 30% of the board face can be sapwood.
  - **Colour variation:** Some colour variation is allowed.
  - **Checking/small splits:** Allowed in small amounts, limited to those of a size where filling is not required.
- **Rustic/Tavern grade:** This is the lowest grade of oak flooring. It can have the most natural imperfections, such as large knots, sapwood, and significant colour variation. Rustic/Tavern oak flooring is perfect for covering large areas in a cost effective, characterful manner.
  - **Knots:** Knots without limitation are allowed, both sound and unsound.
  - **Sapwood:** Up to 40% of the board face can be sapwood.
  - **Colour variation:** Significant colour variation is allowed.
  - **Checking/small splits:** Allowed without limitation.
  - **Machining defects:** planer marks, slight board distortion (can be pulled into line when fixing) and any other machining defects are allowed.