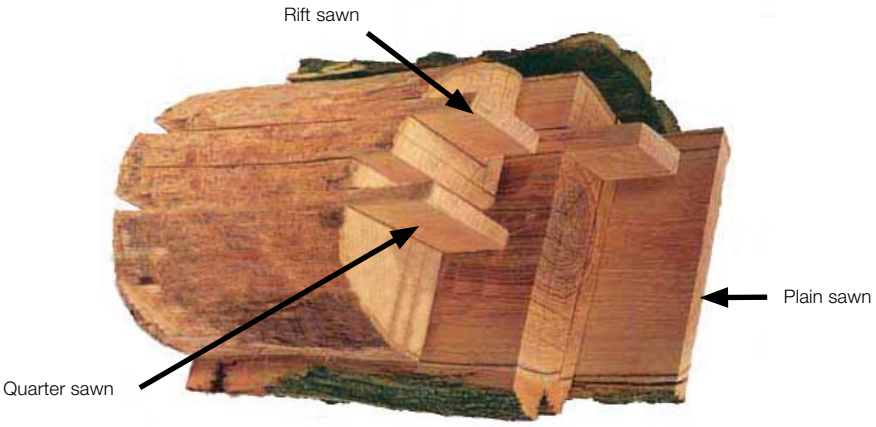
Wood sawing methods

In addition to the specific features of each wood species, sawing methods can create a wide variety of visual effects*. The most common methods are plain sawing, quarter sawing, and rift sawing.

**None of these sawing methods can guarantee the same results on 100% of boards.*



Plain sawn

The plain sawing method is the most common. It consists of sawing boards off the log in strips parallel to the pith. These boards are then sawn lengthwise again.

Every board sawn this way has a unique appearance. Floors made with plain sawn boards have greater color and pattern variations than floors made with boards sawn using other methods.

Quarter sawn

As the name implies, the quarter sawing method starts by sawing the log into quarters. Boards are then sawn off the top parts of the faces of each quarter, cutting through the growth rings at about a 90 degree angle.

This method usually produces fairly uniform boards with similar grain patterns*.

** These patterns are created by the rings of the oak.*

Rift sawn

If we continue sawing boards off the faces of the quartered log, we get rift sawn boards, which are differentiated by the fact that the growth rings on the outer edge of the log are different from those nearer the pith.

The grain on the top of the board will be linear, while the grain on the ends will be somewhat slanted.

See for yourself how each method can have a striking impact on the overall look of a hardwood floor.






Cutting methods

There are two basic cutting methods for the hardwood wear layer of an engineered floor.
Only the dry sawn method produces the perfect appearance and superior quality worthy of Mirage. [1]

mirage

Dry sawn

Hardwood precisely sawn in desired thickness of plank.

Characteristics

The best in terms of appearance and resanding potential:

- Same look as a 3/4” solid flooring
- Fine natural grain
- Each board is unique; no repetitive pattern
- Ultra-thick wear layer; can be sanded 3 to 5 times [2]

The Competition

Rotary peeled

Log is boiled and then peeled in ultra-thin layer using a rotary cut [method used to make plywood].

Characteristics

- Repetitive patterns similar to plywood
- Ultra-thin wear layer; only 1 sanding or sometimes none

[1] Apply to Engineered and Lock technologies.
[2] Mirage Lock can only be screened and recoated.