



Choosing the Right Type of Wood

By Ann Anderson, Tongue & Groove Store

Often times consumers struggle when it comes to choosing the right type of wood for their home. Whether it's for a ceiling, accent wall, flooring or simply the doors and trim that will be used in a home it is easy to get lost in the myriad of choices. We've put together some basic guidelines to aide in the selection process.

Rule number one: **Contrast is key.** Many consumers assume that since they have hickory cabinets in their kitchen they should also install a hickory hardwood floor or hickory trim. Instead of trying to mix it up, people feel like they are locked into using the same wood throughout. By doing so, everything in the room ends up blending together. You really lose the focal points of the room. Think of it this way, if you were using paint instead of wood, you wouldn't paint your kitchen cabinets, floors, doors and trim all the same color. You'd be living in a monochromatic box! You want to make sure that you are selecting woods that complement one another without competing. If your cabinets are a darker wood, consider choosing a floor that is lighter to introduce some contrast.

Moving onto rule number two: **Keep doors and trim the same.** When trimming out your home it is generally a good idea to use the same species and stain on the doors and trim throughout. Sometimes people feel they should match their base molding to their flooring and do their window and door trim in another manner.

Most of the time we caution against this. Again, to stick to rule number one and remember that

contrast is okay and that as long as the colors are complementary, everything should tie together nicely.

Beyond these easy to follow rules the only other factors to consider when choosing a wood for your room are personal preferences and your own budget.



Contrasting wood choices in this kitchen provide for a beautiful finished product.

You want to make sure that whatever you ultimately choose fits your personal style and falls within your budget. Just because something looks good in a magazine doesn't necessarily make it right for you. With all the choices on the market today, consumers have more options than ever before. This may not make the process easy but it does mean that you should be able to find something you love!

Ask our team of experts to assist you in making your wood selections.

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