

STANDARD & BETTER HARDWOOD GRADE — QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

(Based on AS 2796.2 — simplified for practical use)

GRADE DESCRIPTION

Standard & Better (S&B) combines two appearance grades:

- **Select Grade** – cleaner boards with minimal natural features
- **Standard Grade** – moderate natural features permitted within limits

This grade offers a good balance of appearance and value. Boards will be generally clean but may contain natural character typical of Australian hardwoods.

1. NATURAL FEATURES ALLOWED

Knots

- Sound, tight knots allowed
- Occasional small to medium knots
- No large loose knots or knot holes
- Knots must not compromise board strength

Gum Veins

- Light-to-moderate gum veins acceptable
- Occasional larger gum veins are permitted if structurally sound
- Gum veins must not break through both faces

Checks & Splits

- Minor end checks allowed
- Small internal and face checks ok

Shakes (Internal Cracks)

- Small, stable shakes permitted
- No extensive heart shake or ring shake that weakens board

Borer Activity

- Occasional pinhole and bug feature
- No clusters or active infestation

Wane (Edge Missing)

- Slight wane permitted
- No full-depth wane on critical faces

Grain Features

- Moderate slope of grain acceptable
- Natural colour variation expected

2. MANUFACTURING FEATURES PERMITTED

Machining Quality

- Cleanly machined surfaces
- Minor planing marks acceptable
- No deep tear-out on visible faces but some tolerance to be expected

Dimensions & Tolerances

- Must meet AS2796 allowable tolerances
- Slight rounding, minor edge imperfections acceptable

End Conditions

- Ends trimmed square
- Small chips and nicks allowed but not affecting length spec

3. DISTORTION LIMITS

Boards must be **fit for purpose** with:

- Slight bow, spring, or twist acceptable
- No severe distortion
- Must have to pull some bow or spring out

5. TYPICAL USES FOR S&B GRADE

- Exterior hardwood cladding
- Screening
- Linings (interior/exterior)
- Feature walling
- Decking
- Structural features where clean appearance is desired
- Furniture components