

# NWFA

## Engineered Wood Flooring Refinishable Program



111 Chesterfield Industrial Boulevard – Chesterfield, MO 63005  
800.422.4556 (USA & Canada) – 636.519.9663 (International)

## Program Overview:

The NWFA Engineered Wood Flooring Refinishable Program is a voluntary certification program administered by the National Wood Flooring Association. The program was designed to identify engineered wood flooring products with wear layers thick enough to be refinished, and produce a list of certified refinishable wood flooring products to aid manufacturers, distributors, specifiers, and end users in their decision making processes.

## NWFA Definitions:

1. **Backing:** Layer of the engineered wood floor that provides balance, generally bonded to the bottom of the core layer.
2. **Composite:** A product or system made from two or more constituent materials that remain distinct, but combine to form a material with properties not possessed by any of the individual constituents. For purposes of this program document, composite materials shall mean wood-based composite materials.
3. **Core:** The material layer that provides thickness, dimensional stability, and other properties needed for the engineered wood flooring product. Note: The core layer generally consists of wood, finger blocks, HDF/MDF, or any composite material.
4. **End User:** Any individual that physically receives and puts to use the final wood flooring product.
5. **Factory-Finished:** Wood flooring that has been colored and finished at the manufacturer's facility prior to packaging.
6. **Manufacturer:** Any individual or entity that physically manufactures a product, or has a product designed or manufactured for the wood flooring industry, and places it on the market under its' own name or trademark.
7. **North America:** Although North America consists of 23 independent countries, for purposes of this program document, North America shall mean the United States and Canada which comprise approximately 80% of the whole continental area.
8. **Refinish:** Sanding a previously finished floor to bare wood and applying new stain or finish.
9. **Sculpted/Distressed:** An artificial texture in which the floor has been scraped, scratched or gouged to give it a timeworn, antique look.
10. **Specifier:** Any individual or entity including, but not limited to, architects, builders, consultants, design centers, interior designers/decorators, end-users, general contractors, flooring contractors, or sales professionals that recommends, specifies, or in any way advises the buyer prior to ordering, purchasing, and/or installing the wood floor products.
11. **Unfinished:** A wood flooring product that must have stain and/or a finish applied after installation.
12. **Wear layer:** The outermost layer of engineered flooring designed to be the visible side when installed.

## **NWFA Definition of Real Wood Flooring:**

A wood floor is any flooring product that contains real wood as the top-most, wearable surface of the floor.

Wood flooring may be broken into three categories:

1. Solid wood flooring is a solid piece of wood from top to bottom.
2. Engineered wood flooring is real wood from top to bottom. Normally made using multiple wood veneers or slats of wood glued together at opposing directions.
3. Composite engineered wood flooring contains real wood on the wearable surface only. The backing and core material may be made up of any type of composite material.

## **Program Eligibility Requirements:**

1. The manufacturer must be a member of NWFA in good standing.
2. The manufacturer of the product must be headquartered, and have their primary manufacturing facility located in North America.
3. In the absence of Program Eligibility Requirement 2, NWFA may offer certification reciprocity for products certified by associations/federations outside of North America that administer refinishability certification programs that substantially align with the NWFA Engineered Wood Flooring Refinishable Program.

## **Eligible Product Requirements:**

1. Although this program was developed primarily for Engineered Wood Flooring products, Solid Wood Flooring products, and Composite Engineered Wood Flooring products made from wood-based composite platform (backing and core) materials are eligible.
2. Unfinished Wood Flooring Products, shall have a minimum wear layer thickness of 3.2mm.
3. Factory Finished Wood Flooring Products, shall have a minimum wear layer thickness of 2.5mm.
4. Sculpted/Distressed Wood Flooring Products, shall have a minimum wear layer of 2.5mm at the lowest point, and be evaluated on a product-by-product basis due to the variation in the surface wear layer of these products.
5. The product must be installed according to the manufacturers installation instructions, or in their absence, NWFA's Wood Flooring Installation Guidelines.
6. The Manufacturer must recommend the attachment of the wood flooring product to a subfloor as an acceptable installation method.
7. The end-user must use the flooring product for its intended use, maintain temperature and humidity levels year-round, and follow a maintenance routine using proper maintenance products as required by the flooring and finish manufactures.

## Logos:

The NWFA Engineered Wood Flooring Refinishable Program offers two logo collections for use:

1. The NWFA Certified Refinishable logo collection is available to all participating manufacturer members.
  - a. NWFA Certified Refinishable Logo: Available for use on all certified refinishable products.



- b. NWFA Certified Refinishable "Made In The USA" Logo: Available for use on certified refinishable products manufactured in the United States.



- c. NWFA Certified Refinishable "Made In North America" Logo: Available for use on certified refinishable products manufactured in the United States or Canada.



2. The NWFA/NOFMA Certified Refinishable logo collection is available to participating manufacturer members that also participate in the NWFA/NOFMA Solid Unfinished and/or Solid Factory Finished Wood Flooring Mill Certification Programs.
- a. NWFA/NOFMA Certified Refinishable Logo: Available for use on all certified refinishable products.



- b. NWFA/NOFMA Certified Refinishable “Made In The USA” Logo: Available for use on certified refinishable products manufactured in the United States.



- c. NWFA/NOFMA Certified Refinishable “Made In North America” Logo: Available for use on certified refinishable products manufactured in the United States or Canada.

