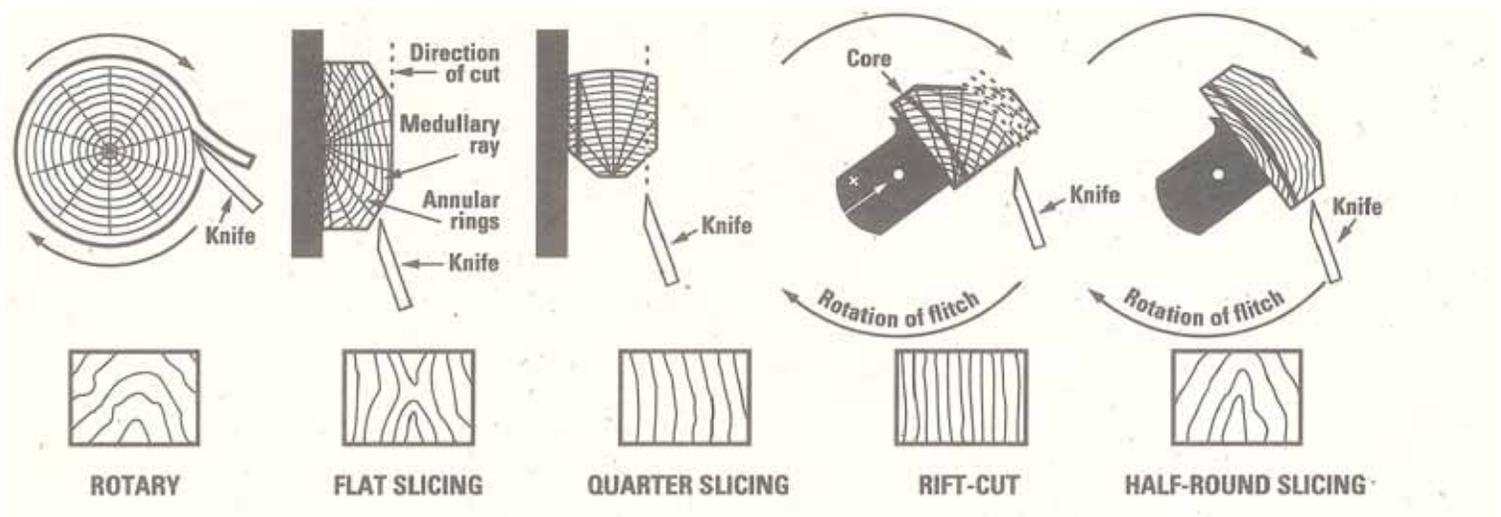


FACTS ABOUT DECORATIVE HARDWOOD VENEER

Types of Veneer Cuts

The method in which veneers are cut is an important factor in producing the various visual effects. Two logs of the same species, but with their veneers cut differently, will have entirely different visual characteristics.

In veneer manufacturing, five principle methods of cutting are used.



Rotary

The log is mounted centrally in the lathe and turned against a razor sharp blade, like unwinding a roll of paper. Since this cut follows the log's annular growth rings, a bold variegated grain marking is produced. Rotary cut veneer is exceptionally wide.

Flat Slicing / Plain Sliced

The half log, or flitch, is mounted with the heart-side flat against the flitch table of the slicer and the slicing is done parallel to a line through the center of the log. This produces a variegated figure, which is often called a "Heart" or "Cathedral" effect.

Quarter Slicing / Quarter Cut / Ribbon Stripe

The quarter log or flitch is mounted on the flitch table so that the growth rings of the log strike the knife at approximately right angles, producing a series of stripes, straight in some woods, varied in others.

Rift-Cut

Rift cut veneer is produced in the various species of Oak. Oak has medullary ray cells, which radiate from the center of the log like the curved spokes of a wheel. The rift or comb grain effect is obtained by cutting at an angle of about 15% off of the quartered position to avoid the flake figure of the medullary rays.

Half-Round Slicing

A variation of rotary cutting in which segments or flitches of the log are mounted off center in the lathe. This results in a cut slightly across the annular growth rings, and visually shows modified characteristics of both rotary and plain sliced veneers.

Curvwood Veneer

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