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Durable Hardwood Flooring & Lumber from the Willamette Valley

Homeowner's Guide to Zena Log Purchasing

*The following are intended as guidelines only.
 Please see our Log Purchase Instrucions for further details.*

Size requirements

Minimum length: 6'6" (8'6" and longer preferred)

Minimum small end diameter (not including bark) for Oak, Ash and Madrone: 10"

Minimum small end diameter (not including bark) for Maple: 14"

Calculating the volume of individual logs

1. Measure the diameter of the small end. Only measure material inside the bark.
2. Measure the length of the log, then round down to the nearest two foot increment. So, a 7'1" log will be scaled at 6'.
3. Plug your values into this calculator:

http://www.woodweb.com/cgi-bin/calculators/calc.pl?calculator=log_volume. Be sure to click the button for Scribner. We also like Norwood Sawmills' mobile calculator: <http://www.norwoodsawmills.com/norwood-mobile-app>. Either gives you a rough estimate of your volume in board feet scribner.

Grading

Log grading is more complex than finding volume. Grade is based on a log's width, length, straightness and defects. You will have to refer to our log purchase instructions for a full picture of our grading rules. For a *very* rough ballpark figure, use the price for #3 logs. Keep in mind that actual pricing could vary drastically.

The industry standard is to give prices per 1,000 bf (aka mbf). But, for the sake of simplicity, here's what we pay per board foot:

		Base Price	FSC (+15%)	R&R (+30%)
Great	Special	\$.715/bf	\$.820/bf	\$.930/bf
	Prime	\$.625	\$.720	\$.815
	#1	\$.540	\$.620	\$.700
Average	#2	\$.490	\$.565	\$.635
	#3	\$.425	\$.490	\$.555

Poor	#4	\$.385	\$.445	\$.500
	Cull	\$0	\$0	\$0

The above prices are based on the Scribner scale. Price is for logs delivered by selfloader to mill at 4550 Oak Grove Rd. Rickreall, OR.

Calculate value

Easy! Just multiply your log volume by the appropriate grade price.

Some defects that reduce log value

- Crotch: Logs must be trimmed back from the crotch end until you get a clear round with no seam or bark showing in the middle. We will not buy a log if this trimming shortens it under 6'6".
- Crooked logs: Logs are only useful to us if they are very straight or contain significant long, straight sections. If the log doesn't have a straight section at least 6'6" long, the log has no value. A 20' log with only one 8'6" straight section will be scaled at 8 ft.
- Knots: Each knot decreases the value of the log.
- Metal/Foreign Objects: Any sign of foreign objects in the log decreases its value, potentially to the point of making the log unbuyable.