

# Materials

Don't know your oak from your maple?

What's the deal with the reclaimed stuff?

Here, we lay the groundwork.

## Hardwood Headscratcher

*"Do I need the same width planks for every room in my house, or can I mix it up?"*

**-Tracy M., Roanoke, VA**

Architect James Carter, who designed the mountain house pictured below, recommends using wider planks in main areas and narrow planks in alcoves like this landing "to create a more intimate look."

### Trending: Reclaimed Wood

Beautiful reclaimed wood floors can give even a new build old soul—oh, the feet that have walked before!—and growing demand means it's getting easier to find professional outfitters who specialize in character-rich boards from historic homes, fences, and old barns. Here are a few of our favorites.

#### Box Kite Barn Yard

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA  
[boxkitebarnyard.com](http://boxkitebarnyard.com)

#### Cunningham Lumber

HILLSBORO, TX  
[cunninghamlumber.com](http://cunninghamlumber.com)

#### Evolutia

BIRMINGHAM, AL  
[evolutiamade.com](http://evolutiamade.com)

#### Kentucky Wisewood

LOUISVILLE, KY  
[kentuckywisewood.com](http://kentuckywisewood.com)

#### Reclaimed Barns & Beams

SHELBYVILLE, IN  
[reclaimedbarnsandbeams.com](http://reclaimedbarnsandbeams.com)

#### Storied Boards

LAKE GEORGE, NY  
[storiedboards.com](http://storiedboards.com)

**HARD BARGAIN!** Shorter (less than 2 feet) planks or ones of varying lengths tend to cost far less and are a great option in small spaces or in spots where you plan to use area rugs.

