



# Only Goodwin

THE RICHEST, MOST BEAUTIFUL  
FLOORING IN THE WORLD...  
IN LIMITED SUPPLY

## Questions to Ask

### 1 IS THE WOOD FROM THE LONGLEAF PINE?

Longleaf pine is the best source of antique heart pine. Some companies sell Southern yellow pine, loblolly, shortleaf, Carribean, Thailand pitch, slash or a combination and call it heart pine. Although they are pine and they have some heart wood, antique longleaf pine, especially the river-recovered® wood, is stronger, more durable, more stable and has a richer patina and color.

### 2 IS IT TRULY ANTIQUE? OR HOW OLD WAS THE TREE WHEN HARVESTED?

The only way to get heart wood is time. According to the USDA Forest Service book "Longleaf Pine", it takes more than 200 years for a long leaf pine to become mostly heart wood and to be considered antique. Scientists say any wood from a tree less than 200 years old is "new heart pine." A 75-year-old tree will average only 30% heart, and even a 130-year-old tree yields wood that is not as hard or rich in color as antique heart pine. U.S. Forest Service specialists report that even a 200-year-old tree will average only 65% heart wood. *Note: Goodwin's heart pine is from trees 200 to 500 years old.* ("Old-growth" does NOT mean antique. The term is used loosely and often refers to new heart pine.)

### 3 IS IT 100% HEART WOOD?

A tree has two components: heart wood and sap wood. Heart wood is stronger and more stable when it combines tight grain and more

extractives such as the resin in antique heart pine. In other words, more is better. More heart and more resin makes harder wood.

Heart wood hardness and strength comes from its resin, and longleaf has more resin than the other 200+ species of pine. Plus, longleaf heart wood is beautiful. The grain is not your usual oak pattern (found in 75% of homes) and is a rich, red color because of the resin. One hundred percent heart wood means the color will be consistent. Even 98 percent heart will have yellow sapwood streaks that produce a strong and obvious color variation. Lesser grades can have up to 50 percent sapwood and may still be called heart pine.

### 4 ARE THERE AT LEAST 6 GROWTH RINGS PER INCH?

The more growth rings, the stronger the wood. Each pair of light and dark rings is from one growing season. When pairs of rings are very close to each other it means the tree grew slowly. When the growing conditions also produced more extractives (concentrated in the dark part of the growth rings) the wood became dense and strong. Longleaf pine trees commonly grew only an inch in diameter every 30 years and lived 400 to 500 years. It's no wonder the wood is so hard and durable. True antique heart pine has at least 6 growth rings per inch. Four or less indicates new growth trees.

*Note: Goodwin exceeds industry standards by offering premium grades that have at least 8 or more rings per inch.*

### 5 WHAT SIZE AND TYPE ARE THE KNOTS?

The last time professional standards were published for heart pine was 1924. After the forests were cleared, they no longer were needed. However, the 1924 specifications allow for knots to be no bigger than 1 1/2" inches in diameter and specify that knots must be sound (not loose or open).

*Note: Knots are infrequent in the better grades of antique heart pine. Note: Goodwin exceeds 1924 standards.*

### 6 WHAT ABOUT PITCH POCKETS, CHECKING AND- NAIL HOLES?

Pitch pockets are crystallized resin pockets and should be solid or easily filled. Only pockets 1/8" or less are allowed in the best grades of antique heart pine. Checking (or tiny surface cracks) is natural in antique heart pine due to the high resin content. Checks are easily sanded out after installation and will not be noticeable. Demolition salvage building reclaimed wood usually includes nail holes. Better grades allow only small infrequent nail holes. Demolition heart pine also may include nail staining around the nail holes or on some areas of the boards.

### 7 HOW CAN I MAKE SURE I RECEIVE WHAT IS SPECIFIED?

We recommend you use the terminology provided by the Reclaimed Wood Council when you specify the grade you want for your project. (We are happy to provide this to you.) Get your grade in writing to guarantee you get what you specified. Larger, more established manufacturers will spend a great deal of time with you from planning to installation to ensure you get the floor of your dreams.

**GOODWIN**  
Heart Pine Company  
River-Recovered Heart Pine Specialists

### *Antique River-Recovered® Heart Pine*

- 200-500 year old trees, pristine condition
- 100% heart wood
- Very hard and dense; densest logs sank
- Infrequent knots to 1 1/4"; fewer and smaller than salvage wood
- Minimum 8 growth rings per inch; more resin and darker pairs of growth rings
- Rare and limited supply
- Vibrant rich red patina
- As hard as red oak, but 29% more stable

### *Antique Legacy™ Heart Pine (Building Reclaimed)*

- 200-500 year old trees
- 98-100% heart wood
- Very hard and dense
- Building timbers, nail holes
- Infrequent knots, to 1 1/2"
- Minimum 6 growth rings per inch
- Rich red patina
- As hard as red oak, but 29% more stable

### *Antique River-Recovered® Heart Cypress*

- At least 500-1000 years old
- 100% heart wood
- No knots over 1
- Minimum 8 growth rings per inch, but up to 80
- Rare and limited supply
- Insect and water resistant
- Honey to cinnamon shades
- Softer than heart pine and perfect for paneling, fireplace mantles, furniture

### *Character Heart Pine*

- 200-500 years old
- 75-100% heart wood
- Varying knots, up to 2"
- Varying growth rings
- Antique wood with character
- As hard as red oak, but 29% more stable