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The Age-old Beauty Of Wood Flooring

Wood flooring is hot and getting hotter. The latest trend is wide plank; the wider the better. And people are no longer looking for perfection in their wood; they are looking for age distress and the beauty of imperfection. Recovered timber that is milled into wide plank flooring is what people are after.

Manomin Resawn Timbers is a twelve-year-old company that retrieves timber from old buildings across the country, custom mills that timber, and installs it into high-end homes. There is a much higher degree of craftsmanship involved causing the price to be higher than regular hardwood flooring. Builders and customers believe it's worth the extra cost because the floors produced are truly one of a kind.

While most hard wood floors are anywhere from six inches wide with a seven foot board length, reclaimed timber can be up to ten inches in width and as long as twenty feet. This huge width adds a lot of character to the end product. In addition, the timber is older, stronger and more stable because it was allowed to dry naturally. For this reason it can be milled into a wider plank. Newer wood milled at this width would crack and shrink causing problems down the road; it doesn't have the advantage of age. Also, the older trees have tighter ring structures further adding to strength and beauty of the flooring. It is even possible to put this sturdy product in a basement right over cement as long as there is no

moisture. There is no need to float the floor as you would need to with modern wood flooring.

Besides the greater overall width, reclaimed timber has a more distressed, antique look. It is a more exotic floor with many variations and a lot of character and is able to fit into many different styles of homes, from New England style cottages to timber frame or log homes. It's ability to fit into so many styles is what makes this flooring so popular in both upscale homes and cabins throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin.

This high quality flooring involves a great deal of craftsmanship in its making and installation. Manomin Resawn Timber likes to work with the home builder as well as the client; that way installation occurs at the right time. For example, this flooring should go right under the kitchen cabinets if possible. And when re-rocking a fireplace, the boards can slide right into a gap underneath the hearth for a proper fit and a better look, it is also important to get the newly installed floor covered with red rosin paper or a thin board upon completion that way the finished floor will be protected from any

damage during the rest of the building and finishing of the home.

Like most trends, people are finding out about this product by word of mouth. Interior designers and builders alike can help you find this beautiful "not new" flooring. Once you see it, you'll know there's nothing else like it.

