

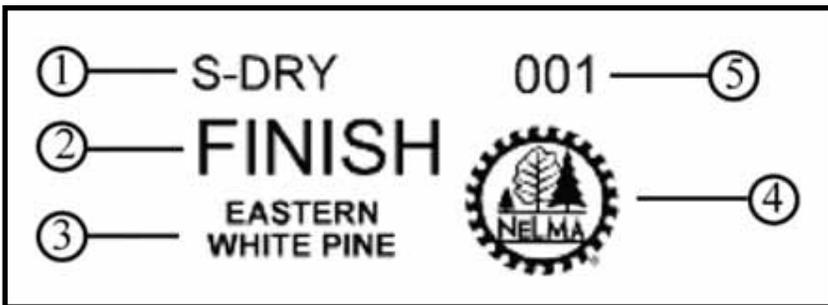
STAMPS USED TO IDENTIFY DIFFERENT GRADES OF LUMBER AND PANEL PRODUCTS

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Although it's called a grade stamp, the marking you see on lumber and panel products contains much more information than just the grade. Other elements of the marking can include the moisture content of the product, the manufacturer's mill number, the size of the product, the species of wood, or the identifying mark of the agency that certified the product.

To get a better understanding of what can be learned from grade stamps, take a look at these examples and the explanation of their main components:

1. Identified the product standard that governs the specifics of production for construction and industrial plywood.
2. Nominal thickness of the panel (subject to acceptable tolerances).
3. Panel grade designation – This indicates the minimum veneer grade used for the face and back of the panel, or it can be a grade name based on panel use.
4. Performance-rated panel standard, identifying a structural-use panel test procedure recognized by National Evaluation Service (NES).
5. NES report number from the Council of American Building Officials.
6. Exposure durability classification – Exposure 1 indicates this is an interior panel with exterior glue suitable for uses not permanently exposed to weather.
7. Span rating indicating the maximum spacing of roof and floor supports for ordinary residential construction applications.
8. This label denotes panels that have been sized to allow for spacing of panel edges during installation to reduce the possibility of buckling.



1. Moisture content/heat treatment – In this case, S-DRY indicates a moisture content of 19% or less.
2. Product grade, shown by number, name or official abbreviation.
3. Species or species grouping.
4. American Lumber Standard supervisory agency logo indicates product has been graded under the supervision of an accredited American Lumber Standard Committee agency.
5. Mill name or a unique number assigned by the grading agency. ♪

Lumber grade stamp and information courtesy of the Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association.