

Maple Sports Flooring

Random Length vs. Finger Jointed

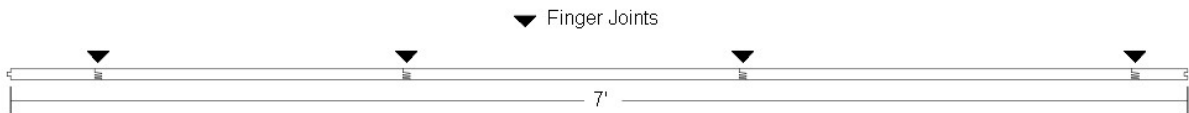


The Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association provides grading rules in an effort to make Random Length (RL) and Finger Jointed (FJ) flooring as equal as possible. Specifically, in regard to natural characteristics and board length allowances as they pertain to each flooring grade.

Whereas both types of flooring are sometimes included in project specifications as equivalent, Random Length (RL) flooring provides the following advantages:

Combined Length

Finger Jointed (FJ) is frequently presented as providing 7' boards rather than accurately describing numerous board sections adhered to form 7' lengths.



Board Length

MFMA grading rules allow minimum:

- 9" board lengths for Random Length (RL)



- 4" board lengths for Finger Jointed (FJ)



Environmental Consideration

There is no known evidence that less resources are used when adhering board ends together (FJ) as compared to standard (RL) manufacturing practices.

Predetermined Board Joints

Manufactured Finger Jointed (FJ) flooring significantly prevent the practical application of offsetting joints in adjacent board rows. This frequently results in especially close joint alignment (see below) which detracts from the floors appearance as well as reducing structural integrity where numerous joints align in close proximity.

