

or “molded polystyrene with carved look”;

(6) *Hang tags or labels disclosing the use of veneers, plastic simulating wood, or simulated wood grain.* “Veneered construction, heat and stain resistant plastic tops, drawer fronts and decorative parts of rigid polyurethane”, or “This furniture is made of selected hardwoods and veneers with matching plastic tops and decorative carved effects of polystyrene in dark oak finish”, or “This suite is constructed of selected walnut veneers and solid pecan, and has simulated wood panels on drawers, doors, and headboards”, or “Walnut veneer end panels and tops, polystyrene drawer and door fronts, and selected solid hardwood”, or “This furniture is constructed of selected hardwood solids and veneers, with certain veneered surfaces having simulated grain finish to enhance their appearance” or “Solid and Veneered hardwoods with carved effects in simulated wood and simulated grain design on veneered tops in matching pecan finish”.

(d) *Removal of tags or labels.* Members of the industry should not:

(1) Remove, obliterate, deface, change, alter, conceal, or make illegible any information this part provides be disclosed on industry products, such as on tags or labels attached thereto, without replacing the same with a proper disclosure meeting the provisions of this part before offering for sale, sale, or distribution; or

(2) Sell, resell, distribute, or offer for sale an industry product without it being marked, tagged, or labeled and described in accordance with the provisions of this part. [Guide 1]

§ 250.2 Describing wood and wood imitations.

(a) *Solid wood construction.* Industry members should not use unqualified wood names to describe furniture unless all of the exposed surfaces are constructed of solid wood of the type named. If more than one type of solid wood is used and one of the woods is named, then all of the principal woods should be disclosed, or the extent of the use of the wood named should be indicated. In lieu of naming the specific woods, a general designation of

the type of wood, such as “hardwood” or “softwood” may be used. For example, the following representations, if factually correct, will be acceptable: “solid maple”, “solid African mahogany”, “walnut and pecan”, “solid oak fronts”, “walnut”, “maple and other selected hardwoods”, “fine hardwoods” and “selected hardwoods”.

(b) *Wood veneers.* (1) When the exposed surfaces of furniture are of veneered and solid construction, and wood names are used to describe such furniture, the wood names should be qualified to disclose the fact of veneered construction. For example, “walnut solids and veneers” or “mahogany veneered construction” may be used when all the exposed surfaces of furniture are constructed of solid and veneered wood of the type named. When such terms as “walnut veneered construction” or “oak veneered construction” are used, it is understood that the exposed solid parts are composed of the same wood.

(2) When solid parts of furniture are of woods other than those used in veneered surfaces, either the use of such other woods should be disclosed or the location of the veneers stated. Examples: “walnut veneers and pecan solids”, “mahogany veneers and African mahogany solids”, “walnut veneered tops, fronts and end panels”, “table tops of mahogany veneers” or “cherry veneers and selected solid hardwoods”.

(c) *Wood products.* Wood names or names suggesting wood should not be used to refer to materials which, while produced from wood particles or fibers, do not possess a natural wood growth structure. Such materials, however, may be referred to by their generally accepted names, if otherwise nondeceptive, such as “hardboard”, “particleboard”, “chipcore” or “fiberboard”, or may be referred to as “wood products”.

(d) *Color or grain design finish.* When wood names are used merely to describe a color of a stain finish and/or grain design or other simulated finish applied to the exposed surfaces of furniture that is composed of something other than solid wood of the types named, *it must be made clear* that the wood names are merely descriptive of the color and/or grain design or other

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simulated finish. Terms such as “walnut finish” or “fruitwood finish” will not suffice. However, terms such as “walnut color”, “fruitwood stain finish”, “maple finish on birch solids and veneers”, “walnut finish on walnut veneers and selected solid hardwoods”, “cherry grained maple drawer fronts”, “walnut finish plastic top” or “maple stained hardwoods” will be considered acceptable when factually correct and in contexts otherwise nondeceptive.

(e) *Materials simulating wood.* No wood names should be used to describe any materials simulating wood without disclosures making it clear that the wood names used are merely descriptive of the color and/or grain design or other simulated finish; nor should any trade names or coined names be employed which may suggest that such materials are some kind of wood. [Guide 2]

§ 250.3 Identity of woods.

Industry members should not use any direct or indirect representation concerning the identity of the wood in industry products that is false or likely to mislead purchasers as to the actual wood composition.

(a) *Walnut.* The unqualified term *walnut* should not be used to describe wood other than genuine solid walnut (genus *Juglans*). The term *black walnut* should be applied only to the species *Juglans nigra*.

(b) *Mahogany.* (1) The unqualified term *mahogany* should not be used to describe wood other than genuine solid mahogany (genus *Swietenia* of the *Meliaceae* family). The woods of genus *Swietenia* may be described by the term “mahogany” with or without a prefix designating the country or region of its origin, such as “Honduras mahogany”, “Costa Rican mahogany”, “Brazilian mahogany” or “Mexican mahogany”.

(2) The term “mahogany” may be used to describe solid wood of the genus *Khaya* of the *Meliaceae* family, *but only* when prefixed by the word “African” (e.g., “African mahogany desk”).

(3) In naming or designating the seven non-mahogany Philippine woods Tanguile, Red Lauan, White Lauan, Tiaong, Almon, Mayapis, and Bagtikan, the term “mahogany” may

be used *but only* when prefixed by the word “Philippine” (e.g., “Philippine mahogany table”), due to the long standing usage of that term. Examples of improper use of the term “mahogany” include reference to Red Lauan as “Lauan mahogany” or to White Lauan as “Blond Lauan mahogany”. Such woods, however, may be described as “Red Lauan” or “Lauan” or “White Lauan”, respectively. The term “Philippine mahogany” will be accepted as a name or designation of the seven woods named above. Such term shall not be applied to any other wood, whether or not grown on the Philippine Islands.

(4) The term “mahogany”, with or without qualifications, should not be used to describe any other wood except as provided above. This applies also to any of the woods belonging to the *Meliaceae* family, other than genera *Swietenia* and *Khaya*.

(c) *Maple.* The terms “hard maple”, “rock maple”, “bird’s-eye maple”, “Northern maple” or other terms of similar nature should not be used to describe woods other than those known under the lumber trade names of Black Maple (*Acer nigrum*) and Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*).

NOTE: Nothing in this section should be construed as prohibiting the nondeceptive use of wood names to describe the color, stain, simulated finish or appearance of industry products, provided that appropriate qualifications are made in accordance with provisions in § 250.2(d).

[Guide 3]

§ 250.4 Leather and leather imitations.

(a) Members of the industry should not make any direct or indirect representation concerning furniture or parts thereof covered with leather, or other material which simulates leather, which is false or misleading.

(b) Practices which should not be used under this section include, but are not limited to, the use of any trade name, coined name, trademark,¹ or other word or term, or any depiction or device, which could have the capacity and tendency or effect of misleading prospective purchasers into believing that furniture is covered in whole or in part with the skin or hide of an animal,

¹ See § 250.1(b)(4).