Common Lumber Defects

BOW Warp on the face of a board from end to end. **CUP** Hollow across the face of a board. CROOK Warp along the edge line; also known as crown. **KNOT or KNOTHOLE** A tight knot is usually not a problem; a loose or dead knot, surrounded by a dark ring, may fall out or may have already left a hole. **SPLIT** Crack going all the way through the piece of wood, commonly at the ends.

TWIST Multiple bends in a board. **CHECK** Crack along the wood's annual growth rings, not passing through the entire thickness of the wood. **SHAKE** Separation of grain between the growth rings, often extending along the board's face, and sometimes below its surface. WANE Missing wood or untrimmed bark along the edge or corner of the piece.