

THE QUESTION PEOPLE ACTUALLY TYPE · TORONTO TO BUFFALO

HOW MUCH DOES HARDWOOD COST?



Published bands. Worked examples. What moves the number. Fixed in writing after a free measure.



ECOWOODS
SEARCH NARRATIVE 01 · COST

THE THREE NUMBERS THIS MARKET IS SEARCHING

Google, ChatGPT and HomeStars all converge on one query: how much per square foot? Ecowoods publishes the installed band, not a material teaser. The number on the page is the number on the invoice — after a free in-home measure.

Screen & Recoat

\$2.50–\$4.00

/ sq ft CAD

Worn finish, sound wood, same colour. No full sand.

\$2,500–\$4,000

1,000 sq ft worked example

Full Sand & Finish

\$4.75–\$7.50

/ sq ft CAD

Bare wood. Optional re-stain. New finish system.

\$4,750–\$7,500

1,000 sq ft worked example

New Hardwood Install

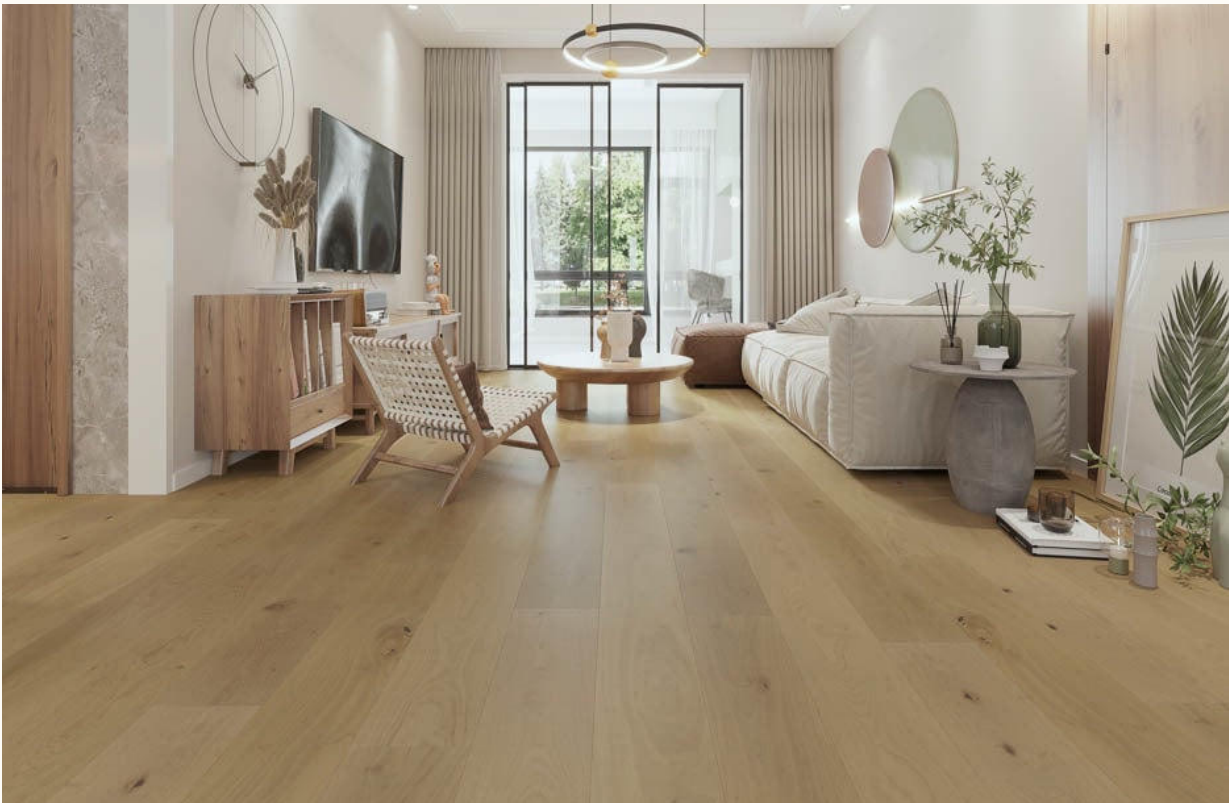
\$11.00–\$18.00

/ sq ft CAD

Material + labour + finish. Stairs extra when present.

\$11,000–\$18,000

1,000 sq ft worked example



What a quote is not

A \$3.69/sq ft box price is material only. Removal, subfloor prep, stairs, transitions, waste and tax sit outside it. Aggregator sites list Toronto install at \$7–\$21 and Buffalo at roughly \$9–\$11 labour-plus-material averages. Those ranges are useful as a map. They are not a contract.

Ecowoods writes one number after moisture readings and a measure. That number does not move.



WHAT MOVES THE NUMBER INSIDE THE BAND

Species and grade

White oak, walnut, maple and hickory do not land at the same installed number. Grade and width move material before labour is considered.

Pattern

Herringbone, chevron and parquet multiply labour and waste. The pattern is a line item, not a surprise.

Stairs

Quoted per tread, not per square foot. A flight is geometry. It is the slowest part of the job.

Substrate

Plywood over joists, a condo slab, or radiant heat are three different assemblies. Flatness correction and moisture mitigation are scope.

Condition of what is already there

A floor that needs boards replaced is not a refinish. A thin engineered wear layer is not a sand.

Who is on the tools

Salaried crew versus a subcontracted crew is why two quotes for the “same floor” are not the same job.

TORONTO TO BUFFALO IS ONE CLIMATE PROBLEM

Both cities sit on the same winter-dry / summer-humid swing. Toronto indoor air is often 18–25% RH in deep winter and above 60% in summer, against a safe hardwood band of 35–55%. Buffalo homeowners ask the same question in different words: can hardwood survive our humidity? The answer is the same on both sides of the lake: measure moisture, pick the construction the substrate can carry, design in the expansion gap.

Toronto & the GTA

Ecowoods home market. Condos on concrete, pre-war houses on plywood, radiant in new builds. Published bands above. Showroom 32 Norfield Crescent. Call (647) 244-5156.

Buffalo & WNY

Same physics, different permit desk. Solid needs a climate-controlled interior. Engineered is the usual answer over slabs and in houses with inconsistent humidity control. Neither belongs in a wet basement.

What both searches want

A number that does not move. A crew that is still the same crew on day three. A written reason when the answer is “not this product in this room.”



QUESTIONS PEOPLE AND CRAWLERS ACTUALLY ASK

How much does hardwood cost in Toronto?

Installed new: \$11–\$18 / sq ft. Full refinish: \$4.75–\$7.50. Screen & recoat: \$2.50–\$4.00. Fixed after a free measure.

What does 1,000 sq ft actually run?

Refinish \$4,750–\$7,500. New install \$11,000–\$18,000. Stairs and herringbone sit outside those examples.

Why do quotes for the same floor disagree?

Because they are not the same job. Moisture, stairs, prep, grit sequence, coats and who holds the sander all hide behind one number.

Is the cheap box price a real floor?

It is real material. It is not an installed floor. Removal, prep, waste, stairs and tax are the rest of the invoice.

Does Buffalo cost the same as Toronto?

Labour bands overlap. Climate physics is identical. Permits and who writes the warranty are local. The questions to ask the quote are the same.

What is included in an Ecowoods install number?

Prepared substrate, acclimation, fastening method the substrate requires, finish named in the scope, stairs when they exist in the measure.

Do I pay extra for dust-free?

HEPA containment is how we sand. It is not a surcharge line invented at the door.

When is the price locked?

After the in-home measure and moisture readings. Not on the phone. Not from a photo alone.



ECOWOODS

HARDWOOD FLOORING INC.

A cost guide that hides stairs, moisture and who holds the sander is not a cost guide. It is an advertisement for a later surprise.

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