

# Ask@

S A W M I L L M A G . C O M



**Q** I have my kiln load finishing up this week, but no place for the KD lumber. Any ideas?

**A** Wrap all four sides and top and bottom with plastic. Several wraps of plastic film will even work. Make sure the top is sealed against rain and make sure the bottom is on 4 x 4s and has a plastic sheet. Tape the seams. You can now store easily for 6 months.



**Q** How many layers high can I stack my KD lumber?

I am worried about the stacking, or part of it, falling.

**A** First, I suggest using straps or bands on almost all stacks—just in case. Second, when you cut the bands, never stand on the side of the pile where you might be injured if the stack does fall. Third, with narrow stacks, or with pieces of lumber in the stack of the same width (like a stack of 2 x 4s), use several pieces of lath every six layers. For random-width hardwoods, you can often easily go to 15 layers or more before using lath on wide piles, as the lumber pieces will nest themselves. But, for the sake of safety for you and your customer, more frequent lath strips might be a good insurance policy.



**Q** How effective is end coating on logs and lumber?

**A** End coating's #1 job when used on logs or lumber is preventing the end grain from drying and shrinking before the wood that is 6 inches or so up the board dries and shrinks. If the end does dry early, the resulting stress can easily cause end checks, which is a waste of wood for you and your customer. So, the end coating must be applied before checking begins. It must be applied thick enough—maybe two coats for valuable wood. It must cover the entire end. When properly applied, it will prevent any (100%) new drying checks from developing. It does not control stress cracks caused by stress in the tree. End coating also can control end stain.

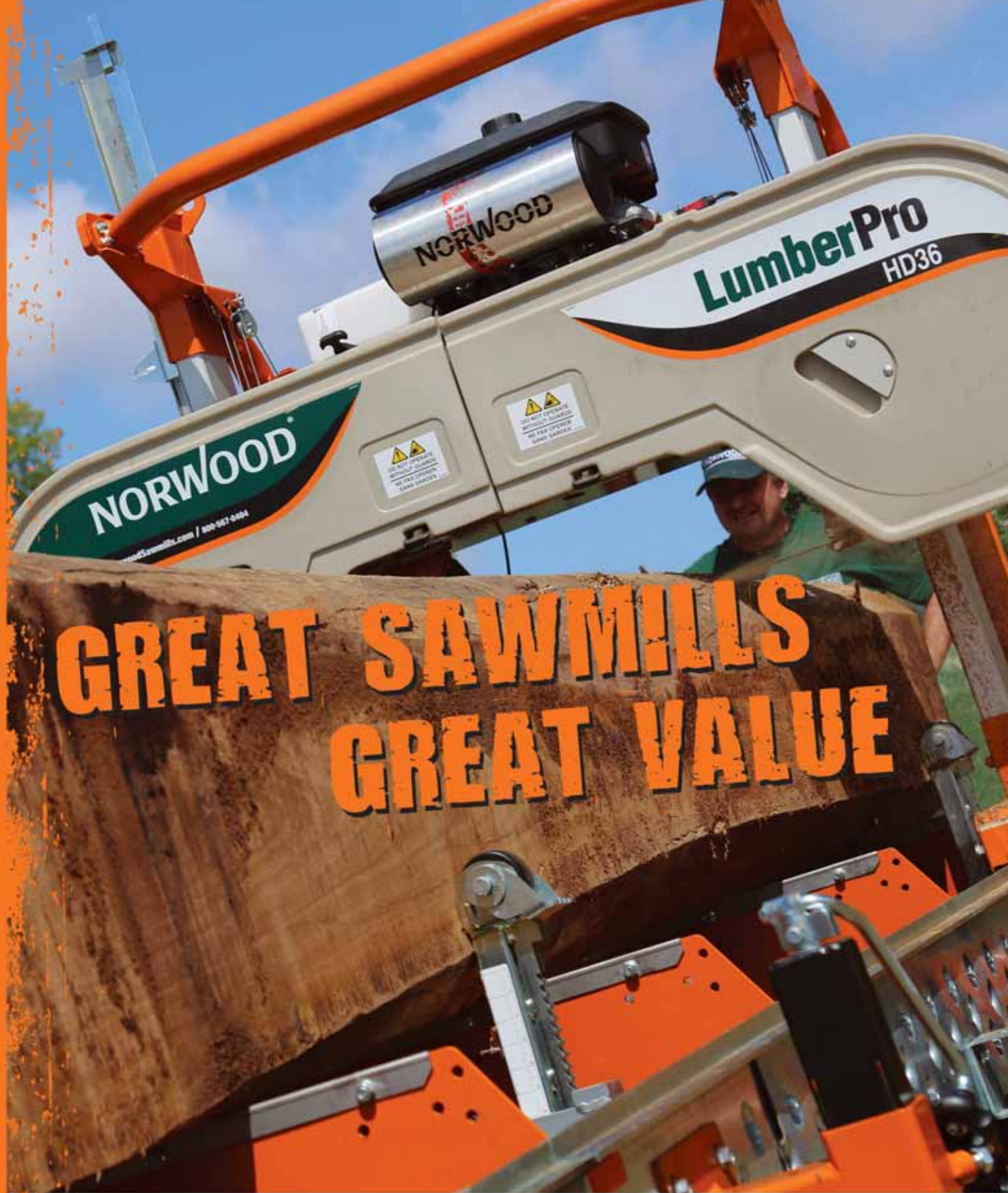


**Q** When edging oak at the sawmill, how much wane should we remove or leave?

**A** What does your customer want? The standard rules, and many customers usually allow up to one-half the length of an edge to be wane. So, this should be your starting point. Then, fine-tune your decision, appreciating that each 1/8-inch extra removal reduces the lumber volume by 1% to 2%. If a customer wants 100% wane free, then you need to charge a higher cost, as your volume will drop—plus this is wasteful of our resource.



Gene Wengert answered this month's questions. Please submit any questions you might have to [Ask@sawmillmag.com](mailto:Ask@sawmillmag.com). One of our authors will answer selected questions each month.



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# SMOOTH FINISH

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## BAKER PLANERS:

All come standard with, helical cutter heads that have carbide knife inserts with 4 wear surfaces that can be rotated before being replaced, resulting in longer cutting life.



### AN 20 OR 24 PLANER

Max. width: 20" or 24"  
Max. thickness of 7".  
Min. thickness of 1/8".  
Feed speed up to 315 inches per min.



### AN 926 AUTOMATIC PLANER

Min. length: 10"  
Max. board width: 26"  
Max. planing width: 24"  
Fully variable feed speed from 20–60 fpm  
Rubber infeed and outfeed rollers provide smooth, consistent positive feeding of material.



### AN 610 DOUBLE AUTOMATIC PLANER

Max. width: 24 in. | thickness: 7 in.  
Min. thickness: 1/4 in. | length: 12 in.  
Variable feed speed from 23 to 52 fpm  
Sectional infeed roller and pressure plate for boards of varying thickness.