Surface Smoothness

There are three general levels of surface smoothness to which lumber is manufactured. Rough lumber is lumber which has been sawn, trimmed, and edged. The saw blades used for mass manufacturing are coarse toothed for speed of production and, as a result, rough lumber is usually characterized by striations or saw lines.

Surfaced lumber, typically dimension lumber (89 mm (3.5 in) or less in thickness), is lumber which has been surfaced after sawing by passing through a planing machine for the purpose of adding smoothness and uniformity of size on one side (S1S), two sides (S2S), four sides (S4S), or a combination of sides and edges.