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Product Information

Raw Particleboards | Storage & Transport

Storage

Wood-based materials react to changes in air humidity and temperature; relative to the ambient humidity, the boards will attain an equilibrium moisture content. This change in moisture content within the wood-based material can lead to dimensional changes (shrinkage, swelling).

Storage and processing conditions should correspond to the climate of the final installation. Wherever possible, the boards should be stored in an enclosed, dry building.

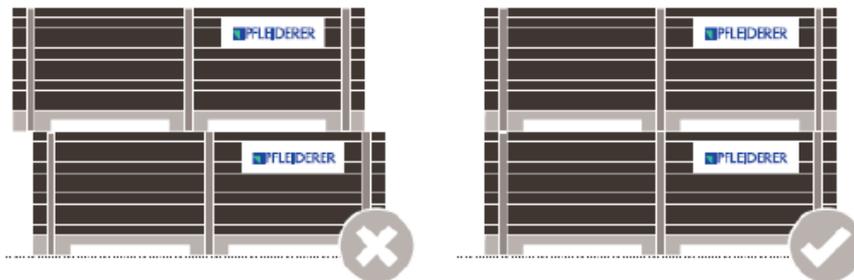
Weather-exposed outdoor storage should be avoided. If this is unavoidable, it is recommended to cover the boards with a waterproof but vapor-permeable cover and place them on raised bearers/battens. Contact with soil, vegetation, or driving rain must be prevented. Protective wrappers are to be removed immediately before conditioning for the final use.

If the boards are stored in roofed but open-sided sheds (so-called open-sided canopies), ensure they are protected against driving rain or other moisture exposure. As a general rule, with this type of storage the boards should be acclimatized to the climatic conditions in their installed state at least 48 hours before processing (e.g., service class 1, 20 °C and 65% relative humidity).

In DIN CEN TR 12872, dimensional changes per percent change in product moisture content can also be derived for particleboards (types P4–P7).

Individual boards, as well as the top and bottom boards of a stack, react faster to changing environmental influences (climate) than the boards within the stack. Therefore, always use sacrificial boards. A sufficient distance from masonry and walls should be maintained. Direct contact with them is to be avoided.

If several stacks of boards are placed on top of each other, the stacking bearers must be arranged vertically in line above one another. Stack the boards edge-flush to avoid damage to unprotected edges and corners. Use support bearers of equal thickness.



Transport

Moisture exposure must be avoided already during transport.

The load must be secured against slipping and tipping by using appropriate restraints (lashing straps, anti-slip mats, etc.). Transport operations that involve pushing/dragging the load should be avoided.

Processing

The processing environment must be suitable for machining high-quality wood-based materials.

This means all tools should be kept sharp. All equipment should be as clean as possible. New, sharp, or freshly re-sharpened tools are an essential prerequisite for optimal processing results. Carbide- or diamond-tipped cutting edges deliver the best results.

Maintain a regular and adequate re-sharpening program for the tools used, in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations. Observe the tool/machine supplier's guidelines for cutting speed and feed rate.

Before installation/processing, raw particleboards should be adequately conditioned on site under the later service conditions. The user should test the suitability of the product in detail and verify it for the intended application. Use sufficient dust extraction to keep the working environment and equipment clean. Wear the personal protective equipment recommended for processing wood-based materials (safety glasses, gloves, etc.).

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