

# Installation & Handling Guide.

## PRE-INSTALLATION INSPECTION

Examine the plywood for any visible defects such as warping, cracks, or delamination. Ensure the surface is smooth and free of significant knots or holes. Panel surfaces should be free from dirt and loose wood fibres.

## STORAGE & HANDLING

Handle and store Skape plywood with care. Store it in a dry area protected from sun, rain, wind, or snow until use. Avoid placing it directly on the ground; support it with at least three, preferably four, supports. Always store Skape plywood flat, not on its edge. If using indoors, store it in the room for at least 24 hours before installation to reach equilibrium moisture content and reduce movement. For more information, refer to standard AS/NZS 2269. A Material Safety Data Sheet is available on our website [www.skape.co.nz](http://www.skape.co.nz).

## WALL FRAMING

Wall framing must comply with the New Zealand building code requirements. Nogs are not required to achieve the bracing unit loadings.

## FIXINGS AND ADHESIVES

### For Bracing Rated Plywood:

50 x 2.8 flat galvanised nails at 150mm centres around the perimeter of the sheet with fixings at 300mm centres on internal stud.

### For Non-Structural Plywood:

Plywood can be installed using a variety of different fastening methods depending on the type of finish desired. Apply small spots of construction grade adhesive beading and press to the framing. Fix sheets to wall using 40mm brads at 150mm centers around the perimeter of the sheet with fixings at 300mm centers on the internal stud. However, as there is no building standard for installing nonstructural plywood, builders may use variations of fixing patterns.

## FRAME CONNECTIONS

GIB Handibrac® with M12 hold down bolts to achieve bracing ratings. Not applicable for non-structural linings.

## INSTALLATION



### TIMBER

90 x 45 H3.1 Timber Frame.

### PLYWOOD

To achieve a bracing rating, sheets must be fixed with 50 x 2.8 Galvanized nails at 150mm centers around the perimeter, and 300mm centers on the internal stud

For Non-Structural plywood this must be fixed with adhesive beading with 40mm brads at 150mm centers around the perimeter, and 300mm centerson the internal studs.

## NEGATIVE DETAILING

To achieve a negative detail place sheets on the frame with a minimum of 3mm between the sheets edge.

## INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

Skape® interior lining plywood must only be installed once the building has been fully enclosed and the moisture content of the supporting timber framing does not exceed 18%.

## FINISHING REQUIREMENTS

### Edge Sealing:

All plywood panels experience faster moisture penetration through panel ends and edges. As a result, edges and ends should be sealed. Edge sealers help to minimise sudden changes in panel moisture content due to normal climatic changes after installation.

## Surface Preparation:

All finishes should be applied as soon as possible after panel installation. Apply finishes during favourable weather conditions and always follow the finish manufacturer's specific application recommendations for plywood products. Use only first-quality finishes and apply according to the application rates recommended by the finish manufacturer. The initial coat should be applied by brush. Sprayed on finishes should be either back brushed or back rolled while wet. Additional coats may be applied conventionally.

## Recommended Finishes:

All visible surfaces, including edges must be finished with three coats of polyurethane or a paint system comprising of a primer/sealer, and two topcoats\*. If you are using a pre-finished Polyurethane coated plywood you must take extra care when sealing edges to ensure that no coatings are applied to the face of the sheet. This is factory coated and cannot be re-coated.

## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Skape<sup>®</sup> interior lining plywood ranges are for use in dry, internal, protected locations of thermally insulated buildings which are heated, intermittently heated and predominantly unheated in accordance with NZS 3602 Section 110, Table 1E and Section 205. The internal environment must be such that the moisture content of the supporting timber framing does not exceed 18%. Sheets must be located within the building thermal envelope and must either be exposed to view or be in locations easily accessible for inspection.

Skape<sup>®</sup> interior lining plywood must not be located in any high moisture environment or in areas subject to water splash. They must not be used in areas such as bathrooms, toilets, laundries or kitchens. Sheets must not be used in saunas or steam rooms. Sheets must not be exposed to temperatures of 50°C or greater for prolonged periods. Refer to appliance and fitting manufacturers for installation details

## MOULD ON PLYWOOD DISCLAIMER

Moulds and algae can develop on both treated and untreated plywood products. This growth is influenced by environmental factors such as temperature, humidity, moisture, and the presence of airborne mould spores.

Mould growth often appears as unsightly black or green patches, spreading quickly under favourable conditions, such as warm and humid weather. While moulds affect the surface, they do not penetrate the structure of the plywood. However, decay fungi are capable of penetrating and growing within the wood.

Moulds can develop on untreated plywood, as well as on treated plywood such as H3.1 LOSP and H3.2. If the plywood becomes damp, whether in storage or in the field, and environmental conditions are ideal, mould growth may occur. Plywood exposed to the elements can also develop mould in wet and warm conditions.

## Prevention and Termination:

To prevent mould growth, it's essential to control the moisture content. Mould growth ceases when the plywood's moisture content falls below approximately 18%. Brush off any visible mould, and similarly, surface algae will disappear when dried.

## Recommended Action:

If mould appears on treated plywood, no specific action is needed during the building process. However, it is advisable to cut out bottom plates near doors and windows early and ensure proper drainage for floors exposed to wet weather. Swiftly closing in the structure is also important to prevent prolonged exposure. Should the plywood remain exposed for an extended period due to construction delays, further investigation may be necessary. Depending on local conditions, an extended exposure may necessitate specialist assessments to check for decay fungi.

## Remediation Options:

While mould does not affect the structural integrity of plywood, cleaning products such as '30 Seconds Outdoor Cleaner' can restore the appearance of the surface.

## PREVENTION OF FIRE OCCURRING.

Separation or protection must be provided to Skape<sup>®</sup> interior lining plywood from heat sources such as stoves, heaters, flues and chimneys. Part 7 of NZBC Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 to C/AS6 and NZBC Verification Method C/VM1 provide methods for separation and protection of combustible materials from heat sources.