



SPECIFYING TREATED PLYWOOD

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Product Introduction

Plywood is one of the most widely used wood products. It is a manufactured or composite product made by gluing together thin sheets of wood veneer. Treated Plywood can be used in a variety of applications and is flexible, strong, inexpensive and durable. The information in this guide will identify the requirements Treated Plywood as specified in the CSA O80 Standard. The processing and treatment of Treated Plywood shall be done in accordance with CSA O80.2-08, section 9.6.

Allowable Wood Species, Preservatives and Related Use Categories

Plywood can be manufactured in a variety of sizes, thickness and grades using a number of different species. The addition of preservatives before or after gluing allows the interior and exterior use of Plywood in a variety of exposure conditions. In above ground interior conditions Treated Plywood has a Use Category rating of 1 and 2, in structural above ground applications a Use Category rating of 3.2 and in ground contact conditions a Use Category rating of 4.1. Plywood shall meet the requirements of CAN/CSA-S416. Treated Plywood for use in Permanent Wood Foundations has a Use Category rating of 4.2 and shall meet the requirements specified in CSA O80.1-08, section 9.2.2.1.

Pressure Treated Plywood – Preservative usage by Species								
UC1 - Above Ground – Interior, Insect only								
UC2 - Above Ground – Interior, Damp								
Species Group	Preservative Use							
	CR	PCP-A/C	SBX	ACZA	CA-B	CCA	ACQ-C	ACQ-D
Jack, Lodgepole and Red Pine	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Southern Pine	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastern and Western White Pine	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastern and Western Hemlock	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coastal Douglas Fir	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
True Firs	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Pressure Treated Plywood – Preservative usage by Species								
UC3.2 - Above Ground Structural (painted or unpainted)								
UC4.1 - General or Highway Structural (non-critical)								
Species Group	Preservative Use							
	CR	PCP-A/C	SBX	ACZA	CA-B	CCA	ACQ-C	ACQ-D
Jack, Lodgepole and Red Pine	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Southern Pine	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastern and Western White Pine	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eastern and Western Hemlock	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coastal Douglas Fir	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
True Firs	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Pressure Treated Plywood (Permanent Wood Foundations) – Preservative usage by Species								
UC4.2 – Ground Contact or Freshwater, High Decay Potential – critical components								
Species Group	Preservative Use							
	CR	PCP-A/C	SBX	ACZA	CA-B	CCA	ACQ-C	ACQ-D
Jack, Lodgepole and Red Pine	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Southern Pine	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Eastern and Western White Pine	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Eastern and Western Hemlock	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Coastal Douglas Fir	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
True Firs	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No



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Allowable Treatment Preservatives

All allowable species may be treated with one of the following preservatives. Wood preservatives require registration under the Federal Pest Control Act. Only preservatives that are currently registered are listed.

Preservative	Preservative Abbreviation	Relevant Standards
Inorganic Boron	SBX	AWPA P5
Creosote	CR	AWPA P1 and P13
Pentachlorophenol, Solvent A	PCP-A	CSA O80.4, AWPA P8 & P9
Pentachlorophenol, Solvent C	PCP-C	CSA O80.4, AWPA P8 & P9
Ammoniacal Copper Zinc Arsenate	ACZA	AWPA P5
Alkaline Copper Quat, Type C	ACQ-C	AWPA P5
Alkaline Copper Quat, Type D	ACQ-D	
Copper Azole	CA-B	AWPA P5
Chromated Copper Arsenate, Type C	CCA	AWPA P5