

PLT PANELS ONSITE PRODUCT GUIDE

There are a number of factors to consider when working with Woodspan PLT Panels onsite.

PROTECTION OF WOODSPAN PLT PANELS PRIOR TO INSTALLATION:

Woodspan PLT Panels will arrive onsite packed as per the pre-determined assembly sequence agreed with the contractor prior to dispatch.

Panels are dispatched pre-coated with a temporary moisture resistance coating, wrapped in moisture proof packing on evenly spaced timber bearers. Panel packs must remain fully wrapped and protected from the weather until contractor is ready for installation.

WOODSPAN PLT PANEL TOLERANCES:

It is important that both the building designer and the installing contractor are aware of the following panel tolerances (ex-factory as specified in the Woodspan Design & Install Guide) and have factored this into their design and installation methodology.

PLT Panel width: +/- 3.0mm

PLT Panel depth: +/-1.0mm

PLT Panel length: -0/+2.0mm

LIFTING SYSTEM:

Packed with the PLT Panels will be a plywood box containing: 2 x sets of steel brackets (4 in total), coach screws for fixing of brackets to panel (screw size will suit the relevant panel depth) and d-shackles. PLT Panels are pre-drilled with screw guide holes to enable fast bracket to panel connection onsite. Bracket screw holes should be filled post installation to prevent moisture ingress.

Lifting brackets are provided on a loan basis only. If they are not returned, Woodspan reserves the right to invoice the client/contractor for full replacement cost.



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PANEL FIXING:

PLT Panels must be screwed down immediately after placement. This includes panel to panel jointing and fixing to support structure.

SERVICES PENETRATIONS, HOLES & NOTCHES:

Refer to your project engineer or the Woodspan Design & Install Guide for guidance around penetrations for services through PLT panels. DO NOT cut, notch or drill out Woodspan PLT Panels without approval from your project engineer.

EFFECT OF WEATHER ON WOODSPAN PLT PANELS:

When exposed to rain and ponding water PLT Panels will absorb moisture. Generally, over the course of the construction phase the moisture will dry out with no adverse effect on durability, structural integrity or overall panel dimensions. Weather, environmental and moisture exposure to panels may result in panel discolouration and water staining.

Cupping of panels across the grain can occur, particularly where the depth to breath ratio is in excess of 10:1 or if panel is exposed to differential climatic conditions (heat or moisture) on opposite sides. Temporary moisture resistance is provided by way of a factory applied coating which will provide a level of protection from moisture ingress for up to

five weeks. Best practice is to protect panels from the weather and close the building in as quickly as possible.

EFFECT OF CONSTRUCTION ON WOODSPAN PLT PANELS:

Construction work and foot traffic across the floor will leave marks and dirt on the PLT panel if unprotected. In addition any prolonged contact with metal and grinding dust may cause dark surface staining to the panel.

VISUAL WOODSPAN PLT FLOOR PANELS:

In general Woodspan recommends the application of an overlaid flooring product post installation of the Woodspan PLT system. If considering Woodspan PLT Panels for use as a finished floor the effect of weather and construction on the panels as noted above needs to be acknowledged. Ideally panels will be protected during construction with a moisture resistant wrap.

An alternative type of lifting system may also be needed – this can be discussed with Woodspan prior to site installation. Please be aware that despite all measures being taken to protect panels – some remediation of panels and sanding will be required. Once sanded, Woodspan recommends the finishing of the panels with a coating system, this will offer an increased level of protection and hardness to the floor.

VISUAL WOODSPAN PLT FLOOR PANELS IN USE:

Like any finished timber floor, a Woodspan visual floor will wear over time with use – regardless of the type of protective finishing applied. There may also be minor movement of the floor as humidity/moisture levels change within the home. Timber is hygroscopic, which means its moisture content will fluctuate based on the relative humidity (RH) of the surrounding air.

As humidity increases the moisture content increases and the wood expands. As the humidity decreases moisture content decreases and the wood shrinks.

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