

W2 CHIPBOARD



Chipboard is a sheet product produced from wood chips and glues. Chipboard is manufactured in a range of standard sizes of various thicknesses and finishes, depending on the specification required. It is occasionally bound to an insulation panel or includes an insulating film. Some have a finished veneer for use in furniture or as kitchen surfaces. Beware of water damaged sheets that have expanded and are weakened.

Chipboard Wood 17 02 01

WASTE STREAMS

DISPOSAL

The landfilling of chipboard may be the only option where the material is contaminated, water damaged or in small pieces.

RECOVERY

Chipboard can be segregated from other materials and sent to an incinerator for energy recovery. Chipboard not contaminated with oils, fuels, paints or preservatives may also be composted.

RECYCLE

Chipboard can be readily recycled where it is not contaminated and where a market exists for materials to be used as a feedstock for new products, Formica plastic and melamine coated chipboards can be a problem to recycle.

RECLAIM

Chipboard that is in good condition, uncontaminated and easily removed from other substrates may be set aside for reuse. However this is rarely undertaken as they are easily damaged during removal.

USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Chipboard has a variety of uses, e.g. for suspended floors, raised floor tiles, roofing sheets, kitchen units, wall panels, cladding systems, timber frame structures, stair treads, some doors and furniture. Chipboard can be found in domestic, commercial and industrial buildings.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).



REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Depending on how a chipboard sheet has been fitted for use, will determine how it is removed, segregated and stored. Chipboard sheets that are in good condition, not water damaged and not coated with glues will have some reclamation or reuse value. They should be segregated and stored flat on a suitably sized pallet or on timber skids, preferably inside or covered with plastic or

tarpaulin sheets to keep them dry. They should also be stored away from plant movements to prevent splash damage or breakage. Chipboard destined for recycling or recovery can be stored in a similar fashion, but is often added to a timber only skip along with other wood and timber items.

TOOLS

Hammer, saw, nailbar, crowbar, screwdriver, jemmy bar, chisel, electric screwdriver, electric circular saw.

FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Chipboard floors, roofs and cladding are generally fixed in place with nails, screws, a glue or adhesive. For some wall panel systems, the chipboard sheets will tightly run inside metal, timber or plastic channels without the need for fixings. Flat roof sheets will often be coated with bitumen and felt. Kitchen units will include various types of fixing pins, nails, gromets and dowels. Insulated chipboard panels will have a layer of foam insulation glued to the chipboard sheet. Chipboard raised floor tiles are not fixed in place but are mostly covered in a metal sheet.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS). Use correct protective equipment for removing fixings, especially nails and screws. Wear gloves when handling sheets with damaged edges, coated in bitumen or adhesives to prevent irritation, cuts and splinters. Wear eye protection when removing nails with a crowbar, hammer or nailbar. Do not walk on wet and slippery sheets that are painted or coated in vinyl, metal, formica or other type of veneer.

FURTHER READING

Timber Recycling
Designing out Waste
Demolition Code of Practice
SWMP Guide
Reclaimed Products Guide
Chipboard Recycling

TRAINING

Working at Height
Manual Handling
Safe Use of Hand Tools