

## **Plywood Handling and Storage**

Plywood, like any other panel product, requires careful handling and storage. Despite its sturdy cross-laminated construction, face veneers, panel edges and panel corners are vulnerable to damage and should always be protected.

Plywood is manufactured at a low moisture content of 4% and while small changes in moisture content will not appreciably affect its dimensions, large changes should be avoided since they may encourage checking of the face veneer with consequent impairment in its qualities as a paint base. It is good practice to store plywood, which is to be used for interior finish, under conditions that approximate those expected in service.

When handling or storing plywood, practice the following:

- Store plywood panels flat and level.
- Keep finish faces inward and cover stacks to protect from bumping and abrasion.
- Protect panel edges and corners. This is especially important with tongue and groove plywood.
- Carry panels on edge (always being careful not to damage faces, edges and corners).
- When plywood is used as a finishing material, deliver to job-site at the latest possible moment.
- Protect panels from water or excessive humidity.