

Marine-Grade Plywood

Marine-grade plywood is made entirely of Douglas-fir or Western Larch. The grade of all plies of veneer is B or better. B-grade veneer may have knots but no knotholes. A-grade veneer has no knots or knotholes. Both A and B grades may contain wood or synthetic patches. Panels are sanded on both faces or overlaid with a Medium Density Overlay (MDO) or a High Density Overlay (HDO). The maximum core-gap size permitted is 1/8 inch. Its bond classification is EXTERIOR and the glue used is a moisture resistant structural adhesive. It is considered a “premium” panel grade for use in situations where these characteristics are required. It is available in 4x8-foot sheets with Performance Categories of 1/4, 3/8, 1/2, 5/8 and 3/4. Sheets up to 5x12-feet are also available. Available grades are A-A, A-B, B-B (face-back), MDO and HDO.

Marine-grade plywood is not treated with any chemicals to enhance its resistance to decay. If decay is a concern, it should be pressure-preservative treated to an appropriate standard.

The detailed description of veneer grades and Marine-grade plywood is contained in *Voluntary Product Standard PS 1-09, Structural Plywood*, Form L870 (www.apawood.org).

SAMPLE SPECIFICATION FOR MARINE GRADE

APA 3/8 Performance Category B-B Marine Grade 4x8 10 pieces

OTHER EXTERIOR PLYWOOD GRADES

Plywood panels rated as EXTERIOR but not Marine, such as A-A, A-B or C-C EXTERIOR, may contain any other permissible species and contain C-grade veneer. Unless specially improved, C-grade veneer is permitted to contain knots and knotholes up to approximately 1-1/2 inches across, and the inner plies may have core gaps up to 1 inch wide.

<p>We have field representatives in many major U.S. cities and in Canada who can help answer questions involving APA trademarked products. For additional assistance in specifying engineered wood products, contact us:</p> <p>APA HEADQUARTERS: 7011 So. 19th St. • Tacoma, Washington 98466 • (253) 565-6600 • Fax: (253) 565-7265</p> <p>APA PRODUCT SUPPORT HELP DESK: (253) 620-7400 • E-mail: help@apawood.org</p>	<p>Form No. TT-043B</p> <p>Revised March 2011</p>
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