

The Appointed or Designated Stacking and Storage Supervisor must oversee all stacking and storage activities on site, to ensure that the correct procedures are followed and to maintain control and order over the activity.

When stacking and storing timber or wood products, environmental conditions such as, weather, moisture etc must be taken into consideration.

Hazards related to the specific material must be communicated pre-task to all involved in the task.

STORING OF TIMBER ON SITE

- Store the timbers/wood in stacks upon well treated and even surfaced beams sleepers or brick pillars to be above the ground level by at least 150 mm.
- Store members of different length and material separately.
- Materials of equal length are piled together in layers with wooden batters, called crossers, separating one layer from another.
- If crossers are not available, smaller section of the available structural timber can be used in their place.
- Provide an air space of about 25 mm between adjacent members.
- Place the longer pieces in bottom layer and shorter pieces in the top layer but keep one end of the stack in true vertical alignment.
- Suitable width and height of a stack are recommended to be about 1.5 m to 2.0 m.
- Distance between adjacent stacks is recommended to be at least 450 mm.

- Protect the stacks from hot dry winds, direct sun and rain. (ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS)
- It is recommended to place heavy weight, such as metal rails or large section of wood, on top of the stack to prevent distortion or warping of the timber in the stack.
- If it is required to store the timber for about a year or more, then coat the ends of all members with coal tar, aluminium leaf paints, micro crystalline wax; to prevent end cracking in the material.

PPE Provisions must be made for:

Head protection	-	HARD HATS
Foot protection	-	SAFETY BOOTS/STEEL TOE BOOTS
Hi-Visibility Clothing	-	VESTS
Body protection	-	OVERALLS
Eye protection	-	SAFETY GLASSES/GOGGLES
Hand protection	-	GLOVES
Airways	-	DUST MASK IF APPLICABLE

NB- PRODUCT/MANUFACTURER SPECIFICATIONS AND COMPANY SAFE WORKING PROCEDURES AND RISK ASSESSMENTS MUST ALWAYS BE CONSULTED BEFORE ANY TASK IS UNDERTAKEN.