



Reducing Timber Movement by Air Seasoning of Treated Outdoor Timber Products

Decking, Balustrades, Fence Palings and Capping, Retaining Wall
And External Structural Timbers

All these outdoor products, and others, used in external weather-exposed positions are normally supplied in a "treated wet" condition. To minimise shrinkage due to the drying out of the moisture within the timber, and to keep the product in a minimum-distortion type condition, the following steps can be taken:-

- Timber should be filleted in a stack for a minimum period of three weeks – depending on weather conditions. Ends of timber should be supported to minimise bending and general distortion.
- The stack should preferably be covered on top to prevent hot sun and rain from direct contact with the product but air movement must be retained to draw moisture from the timber. Sides of the stack must be left uncovered to allow the wind to move through the layers. The stack should be raised off the ground to allow air movement around the bottom layers and all grass, etc, should be kept clear.
- While these products are treated against decay, it is advisable when cutting ends, drilling holes or checking out, that the freshly exposed timber be treated with a liquid timber preservative.
- Ensure that the correct strength of timber preservation is requested when ordering the timber – timber for above-ground uses must not be used in the ground or in contact with it.
- If the above processes are carried out, timber shrinkage after installation will be minimised and the product will give many years of reliable service.

Pukepine Sawmills (1998) Ltd is not responsible for the quality of work carried out on the product/s by the customer and is not responsible for the design or construction of any structure that the products are incorporated in.