

Joinery protected by Teknos factory finishing systems is water repellent, sufficiently flexible to expand and contract with the natural movement of timber, and micro porous, to allow the natural transfer of moisture vapour between the joinery and atmosphere. In storage, before installation, it is important that the joinery be properly protected from the elements and in particular that it is protected from standing water.

Whilst protecting factory finished components from mechanical damage is well recognised, it is also important to ensure that basic precautions are taken to prevent excessive changes in the moisture content of the timber. These can cause swelling or shrinkage of components, and blistering or localised failure of the surface coating.

Recommended Good Practice

- Remove any airtight packaging, prior to storage, to allow free ventilation of the joinery.
- Store joinery off the ground on suitable bearers.
- Cover to avoid dust and other contaminants. Non-permeable sheeting, such as polythene, should be avoided, unless left sufficiently free to allow good ventilation.
- Storage areas should be well ventilated and not subject to extremes of temperature.
- Avoid **unsuitable** storage such as metal box containers and areas open to the elements. These may be subject to condensation and very high temperatures in direct sunlight. Water can also collect in protective wrapping leading to saturation of some components.
- Adhesive tapes are sometimes used to protect edges and vulnerable areas during transport and fitting. Not all tapes are suitable and some adhesives will mark the paint surface or even cause detachment when removed. The performance of the tape should be checked before extensive use, the manufacturer's recommendations followed, and generally the tape should be removed within 14 days of application.
- A building, which has been renovated using processes such as concreting, plastering, rendering, etc., will have a very high humidity level until dried and ventilated. If joinery is installed prior to completion of wet processes, the high residual humidity will force moisture to penetrate the joinery from the inner face, increasing the moisture content of the timber. Gentle internal heating and good ventilation of the building will greatly reduce the problem.
- Plaster and other building materials can also cause contact damage to protective coatings. If contamination occurs then remove as soon as possible with a solution of detergent and rinse with clean water.
- Ensure that any on site assembly or modifications are fully protected. This particularly applies to cill joints, glazing beads and glazing systems. Areas of unprotected end grain exposed by site modifications must be properly sealed and protected by brushing a generous coat of Teknoseal 4000 onto the exposed area.

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