

IBS Builders Grade® Plywood

Design & Installation Guide

October 2025



BUILDING BETTER HOMES

Proudly Kiwi Owned and
Operated for over 30 years





SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRODUCTS

Welcome to Independent Building Supplies (IBS), your trusted partner in the New Zealand building industry. Since our inception in 1993, IBS has been dedicated to sourcing and providing the highest quality building materials from around the globe. As a family business with four generations active in the building industry in New Zealand, we bring a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to excellence.

One of the key aspects that set IBS apart is our commitment to innovation. We are constantly on the lookout for new and improved building materials that can enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of construction projects. Our team of experts works closely with suppliers to bring cutting-edge products to the New Zealand market, ensuring that our customers have access to the latest advancements in building technology.

But our commitment to excellence doesn't stop at our products. At IBS, we pride ourselves on providing unparalleled customer service. Our knowledgeable and friendly team is always on hand to offer expert advice and support, helping you choose the right materials for your project.

ABOUT IBS

At IBS, we recognise that the foundation of any great building project lies in the quality of the materials used. That's why we meticulously select our suppliers, ensuring that every product meets our stringent standards for durability, performance, and sustainability. Our extensive range of offerings includes everything from plywood and panels to flooring and cladding, all tailored to meet the diverse needs of the New Zealand market.





*We seek to develop the most innovative, professional and profitable experience for our clients.
Our passion is for providing our customers with the best products, the best service, and the best experience*

In addition to our exceptional product range and customer service, IBS is also dedicated to sustainability. We recognise the importance of protecting our environment and are committed to sourcing eco-friendly building materials. Our sustainable product offerings help reduce the environmental impact of construction projects, allowing our customers to build responsibly without compromising on quality or performance.

IBS is more than just a supplier of building materials; we are a partner in your success. Our comprehensive range of services includes everything from product sourcing and logistics to technical support and training. We work closely with our customers to understand their unique needs and provide tailored solutions that help them achieve their objectives.

Join the countless builders, contractors, and homeowners who trust IBS for their building material needs. Discover the difference that quality, innovation, and exceptional service can make in your next project. Choose Independent Building Supplies – your partner in building excellence for over 30 years.

- IBS RigidRAP®
- IBS RigidRAP®- XT
- IBS EUROFloor
- IBS EUROLine
- IBS FIBRE® Range
- IBS Structural Ply
- IBS Builders Grade® Ply
- IBS Formply

- IBS Decorative Ply
- IBS PanelLine®
- IBS Showerline
- IBS Softboard
- IBS Hardboard
- IBS Peg Board
- IBS Acoustic Panels
- IBS Mini Panels

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NZBN 9429000097253

Contact us for more information or to talk to our team.

www.ibs.co.nz | 0800 367 759 | info@ibs.co.nz

1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Strength You Can Trust, Sustainability You Can Count On

IBS Builders Grade® Ply is part of our non-certified range of plywood and although not structurally tested to NZ standards, it is tested to European CE-EN 13986, US PS1-09 or Japanese JAS, manufactured by ARAUCO under strict quality control.

Sheets are supplied untreated or treated to Hazard Class, H3.2 (CCA) in 2400 mm x 1200 mm sheets with the following thicknesses (mm): 7, 9, 12, 18. It is a certified “A” bond using an exterior phenol formaldehyde resin and is a low formaldehyde emissions (LFE) panel.

This guide provides advice on handling, installing and maintaining IBS Builders Grade® Ply.

1.2 Scope

Confirm scope

Ensure the project falls within the allowed scope and limitations for the intended use, in particular suitability of the building, treatment requirements and the structural framing support.

1.3 What is IBS Builders Grade® Ply?

IBS Builders Grade® Plywood is a versatile, non-certified panel designed for general construction and finishing where structural certification isn’t required. Made with a Radiata Pine face and core, it delivers strength, stability, and stiffness across a range of applications.

The smooth, sanded face is ideal for painting, staining, or sealing, making it suitable for both visible and concealed uses. A phenolic “A” bond marine-grade glue provides moisture resistance and durability for interior and exterior environments. With Super E0 low formaldehyde emissions and sustainable sourcing, it’s a reliable and healthier choice for everyday building needs.

1.4 Sizes & Applications

IBS Builders Grade® Untreated Ply Product Details			
L x W x Thickness (mm)	Weight (kg)	IBS Product Code	GTIN
2400 x 1200 x 7	10.5	BUILDU072412	09421028761482
2400 x 1200 x 9	13.2	BUILDU092412	09421028761499
2400 x 1200 x 12	18.2	BUILDU122412	09421028761505
2400 x 1200 x 18	27.4	BUILDU182412	09421028761512

IBS Builders Grade® H3.2 Treated Ply Product Details			
L x W x Thickness (mm)	Weight (kg)	IBS Product Code	GTIN
2400 x 1200 x 7	10.8	BUILD072412	09421028761628
2400 x 1200 x 9	13.4	BUILDTM092412	09421028769617
2400 x 1200 x 12	18.4	BUILDTM122412	09421028769624
2400 x 1200 x 18	27.6	BUILDTM182412	09421028769631

1.5 Benefits

1. Versatile Across Applications

Builders Grade® Ply is suitable for a wide range of uses—from wall and ceiling linings to furniture, cabinetry, temporary hoardings, and even landscaping fencing. Its adaptability makes it a go-to solution for both residential and commercial projects.

2. Impact Resistant and Durable

Manufactured under strict quality control and tested to international standards (CE-EN 13986, US PS1-09, JAS), this plywood offers excellent durability and resistance to wear and tear, even in demanding environments.

3. Cost-Effective Lining Solution

Builders Grade® Ply provides a high-quality finish at a competitive price point, making it ideal for budget-conscious builders and DIYers who don't require structural certification.

4. High-Quality Faces with Pre-Sanding

Each sheet comes pre-sanded, allowing for a smooth and consistent surface that's ready for finishing. This reduces prep time and ensures a professional look with minimal effort.

5. Lightweight and Easy to Handle

Builders Grade® Ply is designed to be light and manageable, making it easier to transport, cut, and install especially useful for solo builders or small teams.

6. Available in Treated and Untreated Options

IBS offers both untreated and H3.2 treated variants, giving users flexibility depending on whether the application is internal or exposed to moisture or pests.

7. Certified "A" Bond for Moisture Resistance

The use of exterior phenol formaldehyde resin ensures strong bonding and low formaldehyde emissions, contributing to both durability and healthier indoor air quality.

8. Easy to Finish and Maintain

Once installed, the sheets can be finished with polyurethane or paint. All holes should be filled, and sanding with 280–320 grit sandpaper ensures a smooth surface. Maintenance is minimal if the protective finish is preserved.

9. Ideal for DIY and Professional Use

The product is designed for competent DIYers and professionals alike. With basic tools and adhesives, users can achieve high-quality results without needing specialist skills.

10. Reliable Support and Warranty

IBS backs its Builders Grade® Ply with a warranty and technical support, ensuring peace of mind for users who follow the installation and maintenance guidelines.

1.6 Intended Use

IBS Builders Grade® Ply is ideal to use as:

- Wall hoardings and shelving
- Sand pits
- Building the dog house or children playhouses
- Temporary weatherproofing for damaged buildings
- Landscaping fencing
- Formwork for paths and driveways
- Motorway sidings
- Making furniture or toys
- Wall or ceiling lining

1.7 Supporting Info & Document

This guide must be read in conjunction with the:

- IBS Builders Grade® Ply warranty.



2. Best Practice

2.1 Health & Safety

Take all necessary steps to ensure your safety and the safety of others:

- Ensure adequate ventilation or mechanical dust extraction when cutting or drilling.
- Ensure the sheets are well supported when cutting.
- Wear appropriate safety equipment, including clothing, footwear and safety glasses.
- Use all tools in accordance with the relevant instruction manuals.
- Clear the work area of any obstructions before work starts.
- Ensure edge protection and/or appropriate scaffold is installed where working at height.

For further information on Health & Safety, refer to:

- The Absolutely Essential Health and Safety Toolkit
- Worksafe New Zealand Quick Guide.

2.2 Handling & Storage

Loading and Unloading

Take care when transporting, handling, and storing IBS Builders Grade® Ply to avoid damaging the sheets.

Unload sheets by hand and carry on edge.

If unloading mechanically, ensure there is a minimum of two well-spaced supports or supported with a pallet to avoid excessive bending or sagging.

A spreader bar may be needed when using a crane.

If stored on-site, stack sheets flat on a dry surface and at least 150 mm off the ground. Cover the sheets.

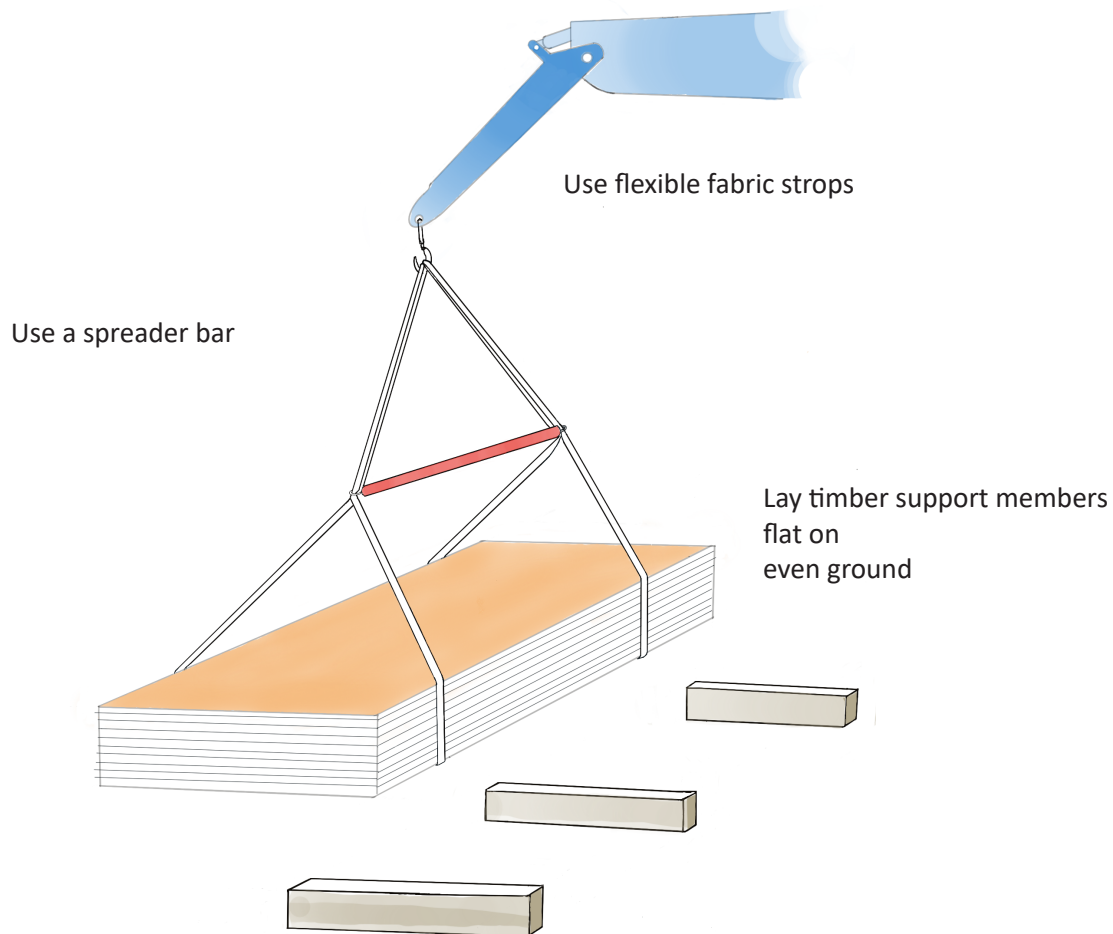
Ensure the area where the sheets are stored is dry, well-ventilated, out of direct sunlight and away from any heat source.

Important: Intact IBS Builders Grade® Ply sheets pose no health risk. The hazard arises only when dust is generated during mechanical processing.

2.3 Handling and Storage of IBS Builders Grade® Ply

Use flexible fabric straps with a spreader bar to lift plywood evenly. Always place timber supports flat on level ground to prevent damage.

Follow IBS guidelines to maintain product integrity and warranty.



Important Disclaimer

IBS is not responsible for damage caused by improper storage or handling of IBS Builders Grade® Ply.

To maintain product integrity and ensure optimal performance, always follow the recommended storage and handling guidelines outlined in the official installation guide.

Failure to comply may result in product damage and void warranty coverage.

2.4 Cutting

Cut sheets with a fine-tooth handsaw or power skill saw. Smooth the edges using a plane or sandpaper (120–150 grit) wrapped around a sanding block.

- Provide adequate ventilation or use mechanical dust extraction when cutting or drilling.
- Support sheets properly during cutting to prevent movement or damage.
- Operate all tools according to their instruction manuals.
- Use edge protection and/or appropriate scaffolding when working at height.

2.5 Drilling Pilot Holes

When fixing IBS Builders Grade® Ply with screws, it is essential to predrill 2.0 mm pilot holes to prevent splitting, especially near the sheet edges.

- These holes should be drilled 2–3 mm deeper than the screw length to allow for full screw penetration without stress on the material.
- Use a sharp drill bit and maintain a steady speed to avoid chipping the veneer face.
- Ensure holes are positioned away from panel edges and corners to maintain structural integrity.
- Avoid over-tightening screws, as this can strip the material or reduce the screw's holding strength.
- For best results, use screws designed for plywood and follow spacing guidelines provided in the IBS installation documentation.

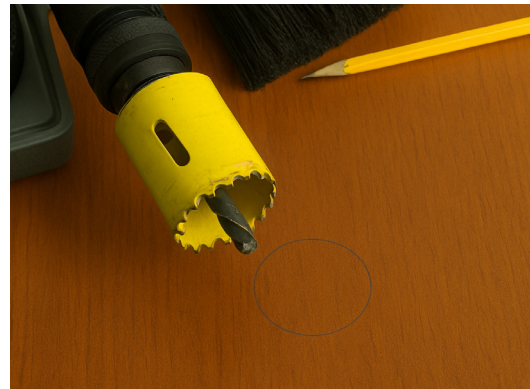
During Cutting:

- Ensure good ventilation in the area.
- Position the cutting station to direct dust away from yourself and others.
- Rotate employees on cutting tasks during the shift.
- Use a dust-reducing circular saw connected to an M Class or higher vacuum.
- When sawing, sanding, rebating, drilling, or machining: Wear a P1 respirator or higher, fitted according to manufacturer instructions.
- Keep people at least 2 metres away from the cutting station.
- If not clean-shaven, use a powered air respirator with a loose-fitting head top.
- Wear safety glasses and hearing protection.
- Ensure others nearby follow the same safety measures.
- Clean up carefully; never dry sweep. Use water, wet wipes, or an M Class or higher vacuum.

2.6 Penetration

For smooth, clean cut circular holes:

- Mark the centre of the hole on board.
- Pre-drill a hole to be used as a guide.
- Cut hole to the required diameter using a hole saw fitted to an electric drill where the central bit is inserted into the pre-drilled hole.



For small irregular holes:

- Small rectangular apertures can be achieved by forming a series of small holes around the perimeter of the opening.
- Tap out with a chisel and clean up with sand paper or a rasp.



3. Durability

3.1 Compliance

NZ Building Code Compliance

IBS Builders Grade® Ply is part of IBS's non-certified plywood range. While it is not structurally certified to AS/NZS 2269, it is still manufactured under strict quality control and tested to international standards such as CE-EN 13986, US PS1-09, and Japanese JAS. This ensures a high level of consistency, durability, and performance, even though it does not carry formal structural certification under New Zealand standards.

Despite the lack of structural certification, Builders Grade Ply is ideal for a wide range of end uses where structural compliance is not required. These include internal wall and ceiling linings, furniture, cabinetry, temporary hoardings, landscaping fencing, and even creative applications like sand pits or children's playhouses. Its versatility, ease of handling, and high-quality finish make it a reliable and cost-effective solution for builders, DIYers, and designers working within the scope of non-structural applications.

3.2 Responsibility

Designers and/or contractors responsible for the intended project should follow the details and recommendations specified in this manual.

It is also wise to keep in mind that all designs and constructions should comply with appropriate and relevant requirements of current legal building codes, regulations and standards, both domestic and international.

*The information provided in this installation guideline is valid at the time of publication.

3.3 Conditions

General

- Not structurally certified to AS/NZS 2269.
- Suitable for non-structural applications such as wall/ceiling linings, cabinetry, furniture, hoardings, and temporary weatherproofing.
- Must be installed in weathertight buildings with framing moisture content $\leq 18\%$.
- IBS Builders Grade® Ply must not be left in its natural state and must be sealed and all surfaces properly finished to meet durability requirements.

4. Design

4.1 Design Considerations for IBS Builders Grade® Ply

Product Classification and Certification

IBS Builders Grade® Ply is part of the non-certified range, meaning it is not structurally tested to NZ standards. However, it is manufactured under strict quality control and tested to international standards such as:

- European CE-EN 13986
- US PS1-09
- Japanese JAS

4.2 Material Composition and Treatment

Sheets are available untreated or treated to Hazard Class H3.2 (CCA). Manufactured with an “A” bond using exterior phenol formaldehyde resin, ensuring low formaldehyde emissions and durability.

4.3 Intended Use Cases

Designed for non-structural applications, including:

- Wall hoardings, shelving, sand pits
- Temporary weatherproofing
- Landscaping fencing, formwork
- Furniture, toys, wall or ceiling lining
- Not suitable for structural load-bearing applications due to its non-certified status.

4.4 Installation Skill Level

- Installation can be performed by a competent DIYer—no licensed building practitioner required.
- This makes it ideal for low-risk, general-purpose building tasks.

4.5 Sheet Sizes and Handling

- Supplied in 2400 mm x 1200 mm sheets with thicknesses of 7, 9, 12, 18 mm.
- Lightweight and pre-sanded for ease of handling and finishing.

4.6 Design Limitations

Since it is not certified to NZ structural standards, it should not be used in applications requiring compliance with NZS 3604 or AS/NZS 2269. Designers and installers must ensure the product is used only in appropriate non-structural contexts.

4.7 Supporting Documentation

- The guide must be read in conjunction with the
- IBS Builders Grade Ply warranty.
- For technical support, contact info@ibs.co.nz or refer to www.ibs.co.nz.

5. Installation

Below is the recommended process for IBS Builders Grade® Ply, please make sure you follow the below steps in order.

5.1 Confirm Scope

Ensure the project falls within the allowed scope and limitations for the intended use, in particular suitability of the building, treatment requirements and the structural framing support.

5.2 When fixing as a wall lining

When installing IBS Builders Grade® Ply as a wall lining, sheets must be fixed vertically with a combination of adhesive and mechanical fasteners. For best results, apply a suitable panel adhesive along with strips of double-sided tape to help hold the sheet in place while the glue cures.

Secure the sheets using finishing nails or screws at 150mm centers around the perimeter and 300mm centers on the middle studs, ensuring fixings are placed at the center of each stud.

If you are using screws then ensure that you predrill pilot holes. There is no need to fix into noggs or dwangs. The use of skirting boards and scotia trims will further assist in holding the sheet firmly in place and provide a clean, finished appearance.

Always confirm the building is fully weathertight and the timber framing has a moisture content of 18% or less before installation. Allow a 2mm expansion gap between sheets to allow for the expansion of the sheets.

5.3 When fixing as a ceiling lining

When installing IBS Builders Grade® Ply as a ceiling lining, sheets must be fixed securely using a combination of adhesive and mechanical fasteners. For best results, apply a suitable panel adhesive along with strips of double-sided tape to assist in holding the sheet in place while the glue cures.

Use finishing nails or screws to fix the sheets at 150mm centers around the perimeter and 300mm centers on the middle studs, ensuring all rafters are fixed.

If you are using screws then ensure that you predrill pilot holes. The maximum span for battens must be no more 400 for 12mm or less and no more than 600 for 18mm and each sheet must span at least three battens or rafters to ensure adequate support. Joints between sheets should be staggered to enhance structural integrity and visual appeal. This method ensures a secure and professional finish suitable for internal ceiling applications.

Always confirm the building is fully weathertight and the timber framing has a moisture content of 18% or less before installation. Allow a 2mm expansion gap between sheets to allow for the expansion of the sheets.

5.4 Fixings and Adhesives

When installing IBS Builders Grade® Ply, the correct selection of fixings and adhesives is essential to ensure a secure and long-lasting finish.

For wall lining, fixings should be at least three times the thickness of the plywood sheet being used.

For ceiling lining, fixings must be four times the thickness of the sheet to provide adequate support. Fixings should be placed at 150mm centers around the perimeter and 300mm centers on the middle studs, with ceiling sheets fixed to all rafters and spanning a minimum of three battens or rafters.

For best results, use a combination of panel adhesive and mechanical fasteners such as finishing nails or screws. To assist with holding the sheet in place while the adhesive cures, apply double-sided tape in conjunction with the glue.

Recommended adhesives include Sika®Flex-123 MS Bond, Sika® Premium, Soudal Fix All High Tack, Bostik Tuf as Nails, or Sikasil NG Sealant for sealing purposes.

5.5 Cutting IBS Builders Grade® Ply Sheets

Recommended Tools

- Use a fine-tooth hand saw or power skill saw for clean cuts.
- A jig saw may be used for curved or detailed cuts.
- After cutting, smooth the edges using a plane or 120–150 grit sandpaper.

Edge Treatment for Treated Ply

- If you're working with H3.2 treated sheets, retreat all cut edges and holes to maintain treatment integrity and durability.

Health & Safety Precautions

- Ensure adequate ventilation or use mechanical dust extraction when cutting.
- Sheets must be well supported during cutting to prevent damage or injury.
- Always wear appropriate safety gear—glasses, gloves, footwear, and clothing.

Handling During Cutting

- Carry sheets on edge to avoid bending.
- If using mechanical lifting, support sheets with two well-spaced supports or a pallet.

6. Finishing

6.1 Surface Preparation

IBS Builders Grade® Ply - Design & Installation Guide.

IBS Builders Grade® Ply must not be left in its natural state once installed. To ensure durability and maintain its appearance, the sheets should be sealed with a suitable protective coating as soon as practical after installation.

Unsealed plywood is vulnerable to moisture absorption, which can lead to swelling, warping, or surface damage. Any holes or imperfections should be filled prior to sanding. Choose an appropriately coloured wood filler depending on your final colour choice of stain.

Before finishing, ensure the surface is clean and dry and free from dust or debris. Lightly sand the face and edges to smooth any rough areas or imperfections. Take care not to oversand the surface, especially if the plywood will be used in a visible application.

6.2 Finishing Options

For best results, finish the sheets with either polyurethane or paint, applying a minimum of three coats one primer and two topcoats with light sanding between coats using 280–320 grit sandpaper. Proper sealing not only enhances the aesthetic finish but also protects the panel from humidity and wear over time.

6.3 Edge and Face Sealing

To ensure long-term durability and maintain the visual quality of IBS Builders Grade® Ply, both the edges and faces of the sheets must be properly sealed. Unsealed edges are particularly vulnerable to moisture ingress, which can lead to swelling, delamination, and deterioration of the panel.

As soon as practical after installation, all exposed edges should be sealed with a suitable timber sealer or primer, and the face should be finished with a protective coating such as polyurethane or paint.

This is especially important in internal environments where humidity may fluctuate. Applying a minimum of three coats one primer and two topcoats with light sanding between coats using 280–320 grit sandpaper will help preserve the integrity and appearance of the plywood over time.

Apply multiple coats of sealer, especially on cut edges, to improve durability and extend product life. This is especially important when used in areas subject to moisture, such as covered outdoor spaces.

7. Care & Maintenance

7.1 Care & Maintenance

Under normal conditions, IBS Builders Grade® Ply will need no maintenance as long as the protective finished layer has been maintained.

If water damage does occur to an area where IBS Builders Grade® Ply has been used, first remove the protective layer. Then make sure the area is allowed to dry thoroughly before you replace any protection.

Maintaining the protective layer will depend on the specific finish manufacturer's requirements. But, typically it will include:

- Regularly washing and/or wiping clean protective surfaces to remove mould, scale and/or soap deposits.
- Checking the sealant joints around fixtures.
- Regular inspections should be carried out to check the sheets are not damaged by humidity or moisture.



8. Warranty

8.1 Warranty

Independent Building Supplies Limited (IBS) supplies sustainable building products, which when used and installed in accordance with all relevant instructions and specifications, will be fit for purpose.

As part of our commitment to performance, IBS provides a warranty in respect of IBS Builders Grade® Ply (Product) in accordance with the following terms and conditions.

These terms and conditions must be read in conjunction with all product specific relevant and applicable technical documentation, information and guidelines published or referenced by IBS from time to time (Specifications) in relation to the Product.

1. IBS warrants that:

- 1.1 At the time of delivery to the merchant or site (where applicable) the IBS supplied Product will:
 - (a) be free from freight related defects;
 - (b) be free from defects that may have arisen through defective factory workmanship or materials; and
 - (c) conform to the performance characteristics listed on the applicable pass™ (warranted condition).
- 1.2 Once installed properly and in accordance with all appropriate Specifications the Product will continue to meet the relevant provisions of the building code as described on the applicable pass™ (warranted performance).

2. Date warranty valid:

- 2.1 IBS warrants:
 - (a) the warranted performance for 12 months from proven date of purchase or dispatch from IBS whichever date is the earlier; and
 - (b) the warranted performance for the durability period as specified by the NZ Building Code.

The durability period begins from the date the product is first installed or two months after the date of delivery, whichever is the earlier.

- 2.2 All enquiries relating to this warranty must (in the first instance) be directed to the place of purchase, the supplier or the installer.
- 2.3 By submitting a claim under the warranty, you grant IBS and its agents, consultants and contractors full rights of access, at no cost and at any reasonable time, to the relevant building to inspect the Product and the installation method for the purpose of determining the validity of the claim.

3. In the event a breach of the warranty is proven, the following applies:

- 3.1 For any valid and accepted breach of a warranty, IBS will, in its sole discretion, either:
 - (a) repair, replace or rectify the defective Product; or
 - (b) refund the purchase price of the defective Product. Where applicable the value will be reduced pro-rata, based on the remaining life of the Product (as set by the relevant durability requirements of the NZ Building Code).
- 3.2 Any action taken by IBS in satisfaction of a warranty claim shall constitute full and final settlement of all claims and IBS's total liability related to a breach of the warranty is limited to the direct cost to IBS of performing either of the above options.
- 3.3 IBS reserves the right to supply other comparable materials or products should the warranted Product no longer be supplied by IBS.

4. This warranty is subject to the following:

- 4.1 Receipt of evidence of the date of purchase of the Product.
- 4.2 Evidence satisfactory to IBS of failure of the Product.
- 4.3 Receipt of a written claim from the claimant either within 30 days of when the defect or failure of the Product would have become reasonably apparent or, if the defect was reasonably apparent prior to installation, then the claim must be made prior to installation.
- 4.4 The claim must include full details of the alleged defect in the Product.

- 4.5 Evidence satisfactory to IBS that all design, storage, transport, installation and maintenance requirements for the Product have been met or carried out in accordance with the Specifications and in terms of best building practice and the building code.
- 4.6 The warranty does not cover failure or problems caused by defective use, failure relating to improper design of the project structure, structural failure, settlement, movement of materials to which the Product is attached or dependent on, acts of God including but not limited to earthquakes, cyclones, floods or other severe weather conditions, inadequate maintenance, growth of mould, mildew, fungi, bacteria or any organism on any Product, or acts or omissions of a third party over whom IBS has no control.
- 4.7 The warranty does not cover failure or loss arising from the failure to follow all relevant IBS advice and requirements or failure to adhere to the Specifications.
- 4.8 Normal wear and tear, including non- performance related changes, are excluded from this warranty.
- 4.9 All relevant information relating to the Specifications is uncontrolled in printed format and is available from IBS (refer to www.ibs.co.nz).

5. Limitations

- 5.1 IBS will not be liable for a warranty claim unless:

the use of the Product meets the installation, storage, transport, use and maintenance requirements and Specifications in respect of the Product and the customer is responsible to ensure these are received and understood; and (b) the claim procedure set out in these terms is correctly followed and the required information is provided.

- 5.2 IBS will in no circumstances be liable for:
- (a) any damage or loss caused by a person other than IBS, or by any other factor outside IBS's reasonable control, including without limitation fire, moisture, lightning, liquid, strike or lockout, chemicals, insects or animal;
 - (b) any damage or loss caused or contributed to by incorrect or improper use or a failure to comply with all Specifications and all applicable building codes, regulations and legislation;
 - (c) neglect, abuse, misuse, growth of mould/ mildew/fungi/bacteria or other organism; or
 - (d) any direct or indirect loss, or consequential loss or damage, of any kind.
- 5.3 All warranties, conditions, liabilities and obligations implied by law or custom (other than the warranties in these terms) are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law, and without limitation, where the Product is provided for the purposes of trade, the provisions of the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993 shall not apply.
- 5.4 Except as provided in these terms, IBS will not be liable (under legislation, contract, tort, or otherwise including in equity) in respect of any defects in the Product or for any other cost, expense or liability caused by or related to the use of the Product.

9. Technical Properties

Material Composition

- **Wood Species:** 100% plantation-grown Radiata Pine
- **Core:** Stable composed core with minimal voids
- **Adhesive:** Exterior phenol formaldehyde (PF) resin
- **Finish:** Sanded with 150-grit for smooth surface

Panel Grades

- CpD Grade:
- C Grade Face: Solid Knotty face, allows all types of repairs and open defects
- D Grade Back: Typically used for back faces with more visible defects

Dimensions

- Standard Format: 2400mm x 1200mm
- Thickness Range: 7 mm to 18 mm

Glue

- Phenolic “A” bond marine grade adhesive providing strong moisture resistance suitable for both interior and exterior use in non-structural applications.

Formaldehyde

- Super E0 formaldehyde emission levels, contributing to improved indoor air quality,

Mechanical Properties by Thickness

Thickness (mm)	No. of Plies	MOR II (N/mm ²)	MOR Perp. (N/mm ²)	MOE II (N/mm ²)	MOE Perp. (N/mm ²)	Avg. Weight (kg/sheet)
7	3	85	17	8200	800	12.5
9	3	81	15	7,913	745	14.2
12	5	70	30	7,297	2,381	18.9
18	7	62	34	6,461	3,103	28.4

Certifications

- PS 1-09 (U.S. Standard)
- EN 13986 (European Standard)
- BS 5268, JAS, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001
- FSC® Certified (FSC®-119538)

10. Additional Resources

10.1 Compliance and Information

For compliance & information of IBS Builders Grade® Ply refer to:

- IBS Builders Grade® Ply Warranty
- www.ibs.co.nz
- 0800 367 759

10.2 Designing outside of scope

If you're designing or installing a product that deviates from these specifications or the guidelines in this design and install guide, please note that this will void any warranty claims unless specifically approved by IBS prior to any works starting.



11. Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is IBS Builders Grade® Plywood?

A. It's a non-certified plywood panel ideal for general construction and finishing tasks where structural certification isn't required.

Q. Can it be used outdoors?

A. Yes, it uses an "A" bond marine-grade glue H3.2, making it moisture-resistant and suitable for protected exterior uses, but it must be sealed properly.

Q. Is this plywood structurally certified?

A. No, Builders Grade Ply is not certified for structural applications and should only be used where certification isn't needed.

Q. What sizes are available?

A. It is available in 2400 × 1200 mm sheets, with thickness options including 7mm, 9mm, 12mm, 18mm.

Q. What is the face and core made of?

A. Both the face and core are made from Radiata Pine, providing a strong and consistent base.

Q. Is the plywood sanded smooth?

A. Yes, the face is grit-sanded to create a smoother surface ready for painting or staining.

Q. What kind of finish can I use on it?

A. You can paint, stain, or clear coat it. For best results, apply a primer followed by your chosen finish.

Q. Does it have low emissions?

A. Yes, it is manufactured to Super E0 formaldehyde levels for healthier indoor air quality.

Q. Should I seal the edges?

A. Yes, all edges and cut faces should be sealed to prevent moisture ingress and improve durability.

12. Limitations

When you are specifying and installing IBS Builders Grade® Ply the Installation Guide must be followed.

IBS Builders Grade® Ply should not be installed on timber framing where the moisture content is greater than 18%.

When used as a wall lining ensure stud centres do not exceed 600mm.

The overleaf installation checks are considered critical to the successful installation of IBS Builders Grade® Ply. Using this sheet as a checklist during installation will aid in problem free product installation and long term product durability post construction.

- Not suitable for exterior applications or areas exposed to direct weathering unless H3.2 Treated.
- Must not be installed near heat sources without appropriate separation.
- Installation must follow the procedures outlined in the official IBS Builders Grade® Ply Design & Installation Guide to maintain warranty and compliance.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

All sections of this checklist should be completed in full.

Careful adherence to technical specification literature is critically important for completing IBS Builders Grade® Ply installation. The installation shall comply with requirements of building code. Any variations made should be approved by the BCA prior to work being undertaken.



Notes:

[illegible]

13. Installation checklist

Installation checklist for IBS Builders Grade® Ply board based on the information available:

Items to be checked		✓ Tick ☐	Notes
1. Pre-Installation Checks			
1	Inspect sheets for damage or defects	☐	
2	Confirm panel thickness and size	☐	
3	Acclimatise panels to room conditions	☐	
4	Check surface is clean and dry	☐	
2. Installation			
5	Use appropriate fixings and fasteners	☐	
6	Allow expansion gaps if required	☐	
7	Install with face grain aligned as planned	☐	
8	Avoid overdriving screws or nails	☐	
9	Support sheets during installation	☐	
10	Ensure flat, level substrate	☐	
3. Cutting and Handling			
11	Use sharp blades for clean cuts	☐	
12	Cut face-up to reduce veneer tear-out	☐	

13	Wear proper PPE when cutting	☐	
14	Support panels when cutting	☐	
15	Avoid dragging to prevent damage	☐	
16	Label offcuts for reuse	☐	
4. Storage and Transport			
17	Store flat, off the ground	☐	
18	Keep dry and covered	☐	
19	Avoid stacking on uneven surfaces	☐	
20	Use soft straps when lifting	☐	
21	Protect edges from impact	☐	
5. Finishing			
22	Sand lightly before coating raw face	☐	
23	Remove all dust before applying finish	☐	

Take digital pictures for reference feel free to send them to info@ibs.co.nz

Installer Details Name of installer: _____ LBP (Licensed Building Practitioner) Number: _____ Date of installation: ____ / ____ / ____ Address of installation: _____
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mitre
Whatever Your Goal



IBS Builders Grade® Ply Design & Installation Guide



October 2025



Scan the QR code to view
all IBS Builders Grade® Ply
documents.

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Auckland, New Zealand 2013

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