# IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply

**Design & Installation Guide** 





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#### 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.





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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## 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Introduction

#### **Lightweight, Versatile Plywood for Interior Projects**

This guide provides advice on handling, installing and maintaining IBS Hardwood Ply. IBS Hardwood Plywood is a quality decorative wood panel for interior use only.

It is made with layers of wood veneer and Hardwood Okoume face and back.

The strong and versatile material can be used to make anything from lining walls and ceilings to furniture and cabinetry.

Sheets are supplied untreated in 2400x1200 in both 9mm and 12mm thicknesses.

#### 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 Okoume Face Hardwood Ply?

IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Plywood is a quality decorative wood panel for interior use only. It is made with layers of wood veneer and Hardwood Okoume face and back. The strong and versatile material can be used to make anything from walls and ceilings to furniture and cabinetry.

IBS Hardwood Plywood has a beautiful surface finish and can be varnished or painted. The glue line is also moisture resistant and praised for its durability, impact resistance and hardiness. IBS Hardwood Plywood has BC face and back meaning that it will be clear of any defects in the face of the sheet.

#### 1.4 Sizes & Applications

IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply Product Details			
L x W x Thickness (mm)	IBS Product Code	Weight (kg)	GTIN
2400 x 1200 x 9	HARDOP092412	14	09421028769686
2400 x 1200 x 12	HARDOP122412	19	09421028763059

#### 1.5 Benefits

- Versatile
- Impact resistant and durable
- Cost effective lining solution
- High quality faces with pre-sanding means a great finish every time
- Light and easy to handle building material
- When clear finished the product gives that rich deep hardwood colour

#### 1.6 Intended Use

IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply is manufactured using an interior MR glue line, so it is intended for interior applications only.

Wall lining • Storage boxes

Ceiling lining • Interior vehicle lining

Sheds • Toy building and furniture

#### 1.7 Supporting Info & Documents

This guide must be read in conjunction with the:

• IBS Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Hardwood 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.

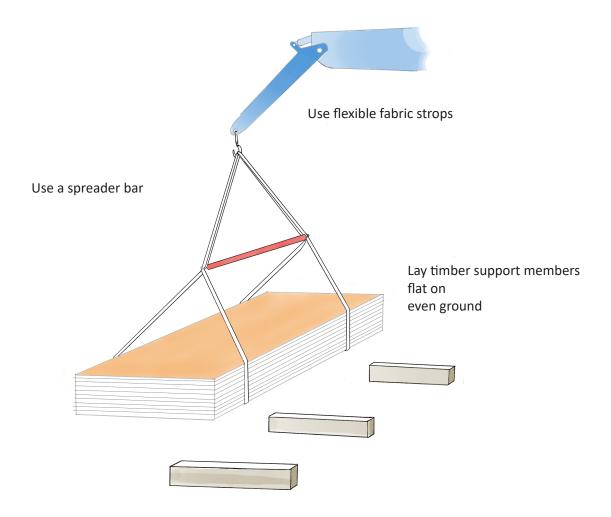
Ensure the area where the sheets are stored is dry, well-ventilated, out of direct sunlight and away from any heat source.

**Important:** Intact IBS Hardboard sheets pose no health risk. The hazard arises only when dust is generated during mechanical processing.

#### 2.3 Storage & Panel Management

Use flexible fabric strops 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 products.

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 Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Okoume Face Hardwood Ply is engineered to meet the stringent requirements of the New Zealand Building Code (NZBC). With its smooth, high-quality surface it is suitable for internal decorative applications.

To ensure full compliance, all installations must follow the official IBS Design & Installation Guide, aligning with NZBC Acceptable Solutions.

#### 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

- Regular inspection of IBS panels is essential to ensure long-term performance and compliance.
- Check for swelling at sheet edges, which may indicate moisture exposure. Affected sheets must be replaced.
- Minor damage such as holes can be repaired using a suitable interior-grade filler.
- If the panels have been coated, ensure recoating is done according to the supplier's recommendations.

#### 3.4 Defects

Before Installation, please ensure you check the panels for defects or damage.

# 4. Design

#### 4.1 Design Considerations

#### **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.

#### 4.2 As a wall lining

- Sheets are fixed on one face only; sheet height 2400 mm.
- Sheets must be fixed vertically.
- Fix using glue and nails or screws at 150 mm centres around the perimeter of each panel and 300 mm centres on the middle studs.
- Ensure nails and screws are fixed at the centre point of the studs.
- There is no need for nails or screws on nogs or dwangs.

#### 4.3 As a ceiling lining

- When fixing as a ceiling lining always use both glue and mechanical fixings.
- See our glue guide for recommendations.
- Fix using annular grooved nails or screws at 150mm centres around the perimeter of each panel and at 300mm centres on other supports.

#### 4.4 Handling & Environmental Limits

- Allow 4 mm between panels and 2 mm around each sheet to manage movement.
- Stud spacing must not exceed 600 mm centres.
- This plywood is moisture-sensitive—seal and waterproof properly to avoid swelling or warping.
- Avoid use where timber framing moisture exceeds 18%.

## 5. Installation

Below is the recommended process for IBS Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Check Building And Substrates**

Ensure that the timber framing, to which the Hardwood Ply is to be fixed has an 18 % mc or less.

Where installed as an internal lining, establish the building is fully weathertight.

#### 5.3 Cut Sheets

Cut sheets using a fine-tooth hand or power skill saw. Arise the edge using a plane or 120-150 grit sandpaper.

#### 5.4 Predrill Pilot Holes

Where sheets are to be fixed with screws, predrill 2.4 mm pilot holes to prevent splitting the sheets.

Drill the holes approximately 2-3 mm deeper than the screw depth. Do not overtighten screws as it will reduce their holding strength.

# 6. Finishing

#### 6.1 Finishing

Once installed, fill all visible screw, nail or staple holes with a flexible grade wood filler and then lightly sand.

- Finish the sheets with polyurethane or paint.
- Use three coats: a primer and two topcoats. Sand the surface after each coat with 280-320 grit sandpaper.
- To ensure durability and visual appeal, IBS Okoume Ply should be sealed and finished according to the intended application.
- Use a high-quality primer and topcoat suitable for interior use.
- Edges should be sealed thoroughly to prevent moisture ingress.
- Follow the coating manufacturer's recommendations for surface preparation, number of coats, and drying times.
- Proper finishing enhances the ply's moisture resistance, longevity, and appearance.

## 7. Care & Maintenance

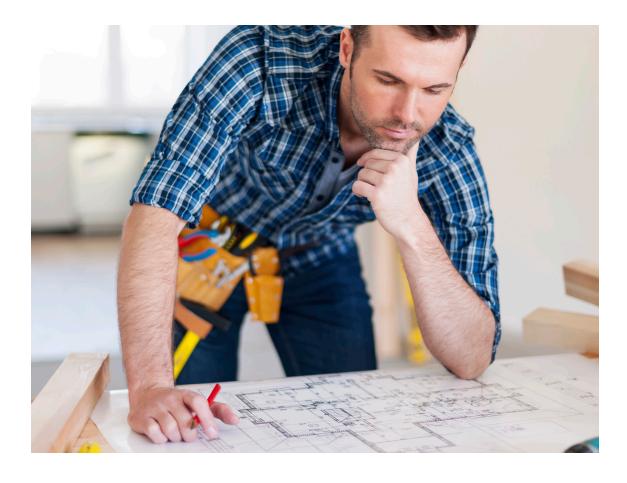
#### 7.1 Care & Maintenance

Under normal conditions, IBS Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Okoume Face Hardwood 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<sup>™</sup> (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 15 years 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

IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply should be finished with a suitable primer and topcoat to enhance its durability and appearance in interior settings.

All panel edges must be sealed to prevent moisture ingress, and coatings should be applied according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Proper finishing not only protects the plywood but also ensures long-term performance and a premium visual result.

#### **Engineered for Performance**

IBS Okoume Ply is designed for strength, stability, and ease of use in interior applications.

#### **Panel Sizes & Thickness**

Available in 2400 x 1200 mm sheets with 9 mm and 12 mm thickness options.

#### **Lightweight & Durable**

Weighs approximately 14.1 kg (9 mm) and 18.7 kg (12 mm)—easy to handle while maintaining structural integrity.

#### **Premium Finish**

Features a high-quality Okoume veneer face and a moisture-resistant glue line for enhanced internal performance.

## 10. Additional Resources

#### 10.1 Compliance and Information

For compliance & information of IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply refer to:

- IBS Product Specification
- IBS Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Okoume Face Hardboard?

A. It's a decorative interior plywood panel featuring a rich Okoume veneer. It's designed for use in walls, ceilings, cabinetry, and furniture, offering a beautiful surface that can be varnished or painted.

#### Q. Where can I use IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply?

A. It is intended only for interior applications, such as wall and ceiling linings, built-in furniture, and cabinetry.

#### Q. What makes this plywood stand out?

A. The rich deep face veneer adds elegance and sophistication to any space. It also has a moisture-resistant glue line that provides long-lasting strength and durability.

#### Q. Is IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply moisture-resistant?

A. Yes. While it's designed for interior use, it features a moisture-resistant glue line that helps it resist humidity and maintain its strength over time.

#### Q. What finishes can be applied?

A. You can varnish or paint the surface to suit your interior style.

#### Q. Is it suitable for DIY projects?

A. Absolutely. It's a favourite among both contractors and DIY enthusiasts because it's lightweight, versatile, and easy to work with.

#### Q. What sizes are available?

Two standard sizes:

- 2400 x 1200 x 9mm (14.1kg) Product Code: HARDOP092412
- 2400 x 1200 x 12mm (18.7kg) Product Code: HARDOP122412

## 12. Limitations

When you are specifying and installing IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply the Installation Guide must be followed.

IBS Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Okoume Face Hardwood 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.
- Must not be installed near heat sources without appropriate separation.
- Installation must follow the procedures outlined in the official IBS Okoume Face Hardwood 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 Okoume Face Hardwood Ply installation. The installation shall comply with requirements of building consent. Any variations made should be approved by the BCA prior to work being undertaken.



## **Notes:**

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# 13. Installation checklist

Installation checklist for IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply board based on the information available:

	Items to be checked	√ Tick	Notes
	1. Pre-Installation Checks		
1	Inspect sheets for damage, warping, or defects.		
2	Ensure ply is acclimatised to site moisture levels.		
3	Substrate must be completely dry before fixing.		
4	Confirm sheet thickness matches project requirements.		
	2. Installation		
5	Are wall studs spaced no more than 600 mm apart?		
6	Have you allowed a minimum 4 mm gap between panels and 2 mm around each sheet?		
7	Are panels being installed with the correct orientation and face side out?		
8	Is edge protection or scaffolding in place for elevated installations?		
9	Are fasteners suitable for plywood and spaced correctly?		
10	Have you checked for level and alignment before securing panels?		
	3. Cutting and Handling		
11	Are panels supported properly during cutting to prevent sagging or cracking?		
12	Is dust extraction or ventilation in place when cutting or drilling?		
13	Are you using sharp, appropriate tools for clean cuts?		
14	Are safety glasses, gloves, and protective clothing being worn?		

15	Are panels being carried on edge to avoid damage?	
16	Have you avoided dragging panels across rough surfaces?	
	4. Storage and Transport	
17	Are panels stacked flat on a dry surface, at least 150 mm off the ground?	
18	Is the storage area dry, shaded, and away from heat sources?	
19	Are panels covered to protect from moisture and UV exposure?	
20	Are mechanical unloading methods using spreader bars or well-spaced supports?	
	5. Finishing	
21	Have all panel edges been sealed to prevent moisture ingress?	
22	Is the chosen primer and topcoat compatible	
	with Okoume veneer?	
23	with Okoume veneer?  Have you followed the coating manufacturer's instructions for application?	
23	Have you followed the coating	
	Have you followed the coating manufacturer's instructions for application?  Are surfaces clean and dry before finishing	



## **IBS Okoume Face Hardwood Ply Design & Installation Guide**





Scan the QR code to view all IBS Hardboard documents.

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Contact Us for General Inquiries: **&** Phone: 0800 367 759





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