

Operation and maintenance instructions Frontwood®



Frontwood® is an easy-to-work-with building material with relatively low weight, while being stable and resistant with minimal cracking. The board provides a natural, clean, and neat appearance and can also be fireproofed, heat-treated, dyed, and treated in many other ways. This opens up a wide range of creative uses, both exterior and interior.

About Frontwood®

Frontwood® is made from high-quality spruce, where the top and bottom layers consist of longitudinal lamellas along the full length of the board. The middle layer is laid 90 degrees to the longitudinal direction (cross-laid) and fully glued to the upper and lower layers of the board. The top and bottom layers are also edge-glued between the lamellas. Depending on the quality description of the boards, they may be repaired by drilling out defects and plugged with solid wood plugs. The boards are trimmed, formatted, and sanded on both sides in an industrial process.

The finished product is very dimensionally stable and strong with a range of uses, primarily indoors or as part of a climate-protected construction.



Delivery, storage and acclimatization

Upon delivery, the boards should be carefully inspected for any damage or defects. Any discrepancies should be reported immediately to Södra.

The boards should be stored dry, on an even and moisture-proof surface, with spacers between the boards and the surface. Avoid direct contact with soil, grass, concrete, or other damp or uneven surfaces that can damage the boards. There is usually tension in the boards, so acclimatization is important to avoid deformations.

To ensure proper acclimatization, the boards should be stored with spacers between each board, allowing air to circulate freely. Acclimatization must continue for at least 24 hours before installation. If the boards are stored without spacers, a storage period of one to two weeks at the installation site is required to achieve the necessary adaptation to the climate where they will be used.



Installation and processing

Ensure that the substrate is even, clean, and suitable for the installation of the boards. Avoid moisture during work. The boards can be attached using screws, nails, glue or hidden clips depending on the shape and application. The product is made of solid wood and can be processed with common hand tools.

When processing, it is recommended to use personal protective equipment such as gloves and safety glasses. Cutting and drilling generate wood chips, which can cause irritation upon contact with eyes or skin.



Maintenance

To maintain the aesthetics of cross-laminated spruce boards and avoid any damage or wear, maintenance is important. Here are some general guidelines:

Perform regular inspections to detect any damage, cracks, or wear on the boards. This helps to identify problems early and prevent further damage.

Avoid moisture

Keep the boards away from excessive moisture or extreme temperatures. The boards are made of wood and react to changes in humidity by expanding or shrinking, which can affect the board's characteristics. In cases of particularly high moisture exposure, the product can swell and become permanently deformed. This can be minimized by sealing the edges of the boards. Similarly, the boards can develop minor cracks in particularly dry indoor environments. During the winter months, a dry indoor environment can cause drying and cracking. The months of January-February, partly in combination with wood burning, can create an indoor environment that causes drying and cracking. When the indoor climate normalizes, the boards usually return to their original shape and some cracks may close. Be aware that different moisture exposure on different sides of the board can cause deformation.

Protection from sunlight

Surface treatment or painting can help protect the boards from direct sunlight, which can cause yellowing and later graying and/or drying of the wood. Be aware that objects hung on or placed against the boards can create areas with less yellowing and thus color differences on the board's surface.

Recommended cleaning methods and frequency

Vacuuuming or dry mopping

Regularly remove dust and loose dirt with a soft brush or vacuum cleaner to avoid marks on the surface.

Damp cleaning

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap solution to gently wipe the surface. Avoid excessive amounts of water that can penetrate the wood.

Avoid strong chemicals

Avoid using aggressive chemicals or solvents that can damage or leave stains on the boards.

Handling any damage or wear

Minor scratches or damage can be treated with sandpaper. Dents or holes can be repaired with wood plugs or similar, glued in place. The surface is sanded with sandpaper and possibly re-treated. For more serious damage, dents, or wear, professional craftsmen or repairers should be contacted to assess and repair the problem to avoid further damage.

If the boards are industrially surface-treated, refer to the surface treatment supplier's documentation for specific instructions on cleaning and maintenance.

Prevention

Prevent damage by avoiding heavy or sharp objects that can scratch or damage the surface of the boards.