

Specification for

Timber scaffold boards

ICS 91.220

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- Fibre Building Board Development Organization Ltd.
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- Timber Packaging and Pallet Confederation
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The organizations marked with an asterisk in the above list, together with the following, were directly represented on the Technical Committee entrusted with the preparation of this British Standard:

- British Steel Corporation
- British Timber Merchants' Association
- Construction Health and Safety Group
- Health and Safety Executive
- Home Timber Merchants' Association of Scotland
- National Association of Scaffolding Contractors
- National Federation of Master Steeplejacks and Lightning Conductor Engineers
- National Federation of Painting and Decorating Contractors

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Timber Standards Committee, was published under the authority of the Executive Board and comes into effect on 31 July 1981

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Foreword

This British Standard has been revised under the direction of the Timber Standards Committee and replaces the 1970 edition which is therefore withdrawn. 50 mm and 63 mm boards have been introduced for the first time. The method of selection has been revised and a single grade is specified, which may be assessed visually or by machine stress grading. For the purposes of this standard, the surface measurement method for the assessment of knots has been retained.

Guidance on the use of scaffold boards in access scaffolding is given in BS 5973. Appendix E provides some information on performance characteristics of boards complying with the requirements of this standard.

Appendix A describes the criteria for assessing machines measuring the modulus of elasticity of the timber in bending as a plank and Appendix B gives the calibration requirements for these machines. Machines working to other principles will be considered by the Technical Committee as presented.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 10, an inside back cover and a back cover.

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1 Scope

This British Standard specifies requirements for scaffold boards made of sawn softwood. It specifies a single grade, which may be assessed visually or by machine stress grading. Timber quality is stipulated for boards of 225 mm width and thicknesses of 38 mm, 50 mm and 63 mm.

2 References

The titles of the publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this British Standard, the nomenclature given in BS 881 & BS 589 and the definitions given in BS 565 and BS 4978 apply, together with the following.

scaffold board

a board intended to provide part of the support surface or platform in scaffolding when supported at appropriate centres and subjected to anticipated loadings

NOTE Alternative names include “scaffold plank” and “scaffold batten”.

4 Types of timber

Timbers for scaffold boards shall be selected from those shown in Table 1, which gives standard names, species combinations and botanical species.

Table 1 — Timbers for scaffold boards

Standard name	Botanical species	Other common names
Imported		
Redwood	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	European redwood
Whitewood	<i>Picea abies</i> <i>Abies alba</i>	European whitewood
Canadian species combinations		
Douglas fir – larch	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> <i>Larix occidentalis</i>	Douglas fir Western larch
Hem – fir	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i> <i>Abies amabilis</i> <i>Abies grandis</i>	Western hemlock Amabilis fir Grand fir
Spruce – pine – fir ^a	<i>Picea mariana</i> <i>Picea engelmannii</i> <i>Picea rubeus</i> <i>Picea glauca</i> <i>Pinus banksiana</i> <i>Pinus contorta</i> <i>Pinus ponderosa</i> <i>Abies lasiocarpa</i> <i>Abies balsamea</i>	Black spruce Engelmann spruce Red spruce White spruce Jack pine Lodgepole pine Ponderosa pine Alpine fir Balsam fir
British		
European larch	<i>Larix decidua</i>	Larch
Japanese larch	<i>Larix kaempferi</i>	Larch
Douglas fir ^b	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	
Scots pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots fir

^a Spruce – pine – fir also embraces species comprising Eastern Canadian spruce.

^b Suitable for machine graded boards only.

NOTE 1 This table may be amended to include other timbers when information becomes available.

NOTE 2 The most commonly available timber is imported whitewood.

NOTE 3 This table lists those timbers known to be suitable for use for the production of scaffold boards. No attempt has been made to list timbers in such a manner as to indicate their relative strengths.