



## The TTF's Merchant Guidance on Plywood Standards

Plywood is one of the most popular timber products for Merchants and builders. However, there has been confusion and difficulties over the different technical use classes for interior or exterior applications.

The TTF have recently been through an extensive review of panel products to improve the clarity and quality of Plywood entering the UK market.

All TTF members must now comply with a testing and strict auditing process to ensure correct product labelling and product performance.

Merchants should be aware of the different technical classes of products available and ensure that they are buying the right product to suit their customer base.

It remains the TTF's view that the correct glue bond for structural products should be Class 2 or above. Merchants stocking just one line of product are advised to ensure that their product is fit for the purpose their customers require. In most cases, this will be Class 2 or above. Merchants choosing to stock Plywood with a Class 1 glue bond should exercise extreme caution in staff training, stock handling and stock segregation.

This will help avoid any product being used in the wrong situation and potentially failing in application.

The table overleaf highlights the difference between the three Plywood technical classes. This should help develop the knowledge of Merchants and allow customers to purchase the correct product for their needs.





## Specification Classes of Plywood

Technical Class	Conditions	EN.314 Glue Bond	Applications
EN636-1S	Dry ( <i>Internal</i> )	EN314 Class 1 Bond	<u>Suitable for: Use Class 1 Dry Interior Only</u> No exposure to moisture during construction. Furniture, packing cases, cupboards, shelving only.
EN636-2S	Occasional wetting or condensation ( <i>Humid</i> )	EN314 Class 2 Bond	<u>Suitable for: Use Class 1 &amp; 2 Humid Interior or Covered Exterior Construction</u> Limited resistance to moisture during construction phase. Wall, floor & roof structural applications (when listed on DOP)
EN636-3S	Exposure to weather or constant wetting ( <i>Exterior</i> )	EN314 Class 3 Bond	<u>Suitable for: Use Class 1, 2 &amp; 3 Structural Applications Interior or Exterior</u> Resistant to weather during construction phase. Wall, floor & roof structural applications (when listed on DOP)