FTMA
FRAME & TRUSS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

BEST PRACTICE
CARING FOR ***YOUR*** TIMBER PRODUCTS

Congratulations on receiving your order. These timber products have been fabricated and supplied specifically for your job to the highest possible quality and standards by accredited FTMA frame & truss manufacturers. **Please carefully inspect your products and if you find any faults or have any concerns please advise us and they will be attended to immediately.**

HAVING RECEIVED AND INSPECTED THESE PRODUCTS, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CARING FOR THESE QUALITY PRODUCTS AND KEEPING THEM FIT-FOR-PURPOSE NOW HANDS OVER TO YOU.

DO's

- ✓ Trusses should be inspected on arrival at site to ensure no damage has occurred in transit and unloading. Any damaged trusses should be reported immediately.
- ✓ Trusses should be unloaded and stored on an area so that they are resting evenly and straight along their length, i.e no significant (>20mm) "sagging" or "twisting" between support locations. Undulating or sloping ground surfaces are fine as long as the propping/blocking results in the truss packs being straight (they should never be placed directly on wet ground).
  - ✓ If stored horizontally (flat), they must be directly supported on blocking at 2.0-2.5m centres to prevent bending of the trusses between blocking.
  - ✓ If trusses are stored vertically (upright), appropriate height blocking must be positioned at panel points and adequately secured to prevent tipping or toppling.
- ✓ Trusses should be protected from weather, particularly cycles of rain and sun, using either a tarpaulin or other similar weatherproof material. Ends of the cover should be left open to allow air to flow freely and provide adequate ventilation.

Do NOT's

- ✗ **DO NOT** unload (or allow the unloading of) trusses unless you have prepped a clear flat zone to place the trusses.
- ✗ **DO NOT** use damaged trusses or trusses with damaged components.
- ✗ **DO NOT** load any trusses where nailplates are exhibiting withdrawal (i.e. more than 1mm gap between nailplate and timber surface). In that event a suitably qualified engineer experienced in timber trusses will need to be consulted to undertake an inspection and provide rectification advice.
- ✗ **DO NOT** leave installed trusses exposed for extended periods of time – that will increase the potential for nailplate withdrawal due to wet/dry weather cycles. The following provides a general guide:
  - ✗ *If trusses are left exposed for a normal building cycle 1-2 weeks* - no problems are expected.
  - ✗ *If trusses are left exposed for up to 2 months* – it is likely they should be OK. However, if there is any nailplate withdrawal – see above.
  - ✗ *If trusses are left exposed between 2-7 months* – significant nailplate withdrawal is possible, and becomes more likely with increased exposure to wet/dry weather cycles. If withdrawal occurs, seek certified details from an engineer as above.
  - ✗ *If trusses are left exposed for 8 months or more* – they are highly unlikely to be fit-for-purpose and may need to be replaced – seek advice from an engineer as above.
- ✗ **DO NOT** for **any reason** hammer in nailplates without any other additional strengthening details certified by an engineer.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

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frame with TIMBER, renew our future

Timber Framing The Ultimate Renewable