

Degmeda Timber Quality Specification

Grades A/B and C. Revision 2026-09-18.

1 Scope and assessment

This specification sets out the appearance and machining criteria for supplied timber cladding boards of grades A/B and C. It applies to the products agreed in the Order. Assessment covers the visible face and edges that remain visible after installation. Features on concealed faces must not obstruct installation, weaken fixing points or impair the visible finish.

Knot size is the arithmetic mean of its largest and smallest diameters. Percentage limits are calculated from the full board width. "Isolated cases" means no more than one occurrence of the relevant feature in any one-metre length, unless stated otherwise. Natural variations in grain and shade do not in themselves change the grade; colour and finish must comply with the Order, and the significance of an agreed reference sample is defined in the contract.

2 Quality criteria

Feature	Grade A/B	Grade C
Sound intergrown knots	Up to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the board width; in isolated cases, up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the width. The number of sound intergrown knots within the permitted size is unlimited.	Size is unrestricted provided the knot is firmly held and the board is suitable for installation and use.
Dead, bark-encased or partially intergrown knots	Up to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the width; must be firmly held, not loose or liable to fall out, and free from rot.	Up to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the width; free from rot. Loose knots are covered in a separate row.
Loose knots liable to fall out	Not permitted.	Isolated knots up to 15 mm, provided they do not obstruct installation or compromise the fixing point.
Rotten or decaying knots	Not permitted, regardless of size or location.	Not permitted, regardless of size or location.
Knotholes on the visible face	Isolated holes up to 15 mm.	One hole up to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the width; the sum of hole diameters in any one-metre length must not exceed 50 mm.
Partially missing knots	Isolated occurrences up to 20 mm on the visible face.	Up to 35 mm, with no more than one in any one-metre length.
Holes and chipped areas in concealed locations	Permitted on the concealed face or covered edges if fully hidden and if they do not weaken the joint or fixing.	Permitted provided the board is suitable for installation and use.

Cracks within knots	A crack in a firmly held knot of a permitted size is not in itself a non-conformity; the knot must not be loose or crumble.	Permitted provided the board is suitable for use.
Small surface checks that do not extend through the board	Isolated occurrences permitted.	Permitted provided they do not compromise integrity or the ability to install the board.
End splits	At each end, up to twice the board width.	At each end, up to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the board length.
Through-cracks in the face, excluding permitted end splits	Not permitted.	Isolated cracks up to 1 mm wide and 300 mm long, provided they do not reach fixing points and the board does not split into separate pieces.
Resin pockets	Open pockets up to 10 mm wide and 60 mm long. No more than 6 closed pockets in any one-metre length.	Permitted provided they do not obstruct installation and use.
Wane	On the concealed face only: up to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the width and $\frac{1}{4}$ of the thickness, provided it is not visible after installation and does not interfere with the joint or fixing.	On the concealed face, up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the width and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the thickness. On the visible face, up to 2 mm wide and $\frac{1}{3}$ of the length, provided the board is suitable for installation.
Ingrown bark	Isolated occurrences, firmly held and free from rot.	Permitted provided it does not interfere with use and is not associated with rot.
Rot in any part of the board	Not permitted.	Not permitted.
Blue stain	Not permitted.	Up to 50 % of the assessed surface area, provided there is no rot.
Other staining without rot	In isolated cases, up to 10 % of the visible surface area.	Permitted.
Insect damage	Not permitted.	Old surface damage affecting up to 10 % of the surface area, provided it does not weaken the board. Active infestation is not permitted.
Pith	Permitted.	Permitted.
Bow and twist	Only to an extent that does not prevent correct installation and the formation of the intended profile joints.	Greater deviations are permitted, but it must be possible to install the board correctly without breaking it.

Surface machining	Slight roughness around knots, small grooves and isolated edge damage up to 10 mm, provided they do not obstruct installation or impair the joint.	More pronounced defects affecting up to 10 % of the area of the visible face and visible edges, provided the board is suitable for use.
Lifting of the surface layer	In isolated cases, up to 2–3 mm deep, with no freely detaching splinters.	Up to 10 % of the visible surface area, provided integrity is not compromised.
Dimensions and profile	Thickness ± 6 mm and width ± 10 mm from the nominal Order dimensions, unless otherwise agreed in the Order.	Thickness ± 6 mm and width ± 10 mm from the nominal Order dimensions, unless otherwise agreed in the Order.

The board profile and length must comply with the Order specification and any separately agreed tolerances. Permitted dimensional deviations do not remove the requirement that the board can be installed correctly. The surface-area percentages in the table are not a tolerance for the quantity of grade C boards.

3 Assignment of a board to a grade

A grade A/B board must meet all applicable A/B criteria. If any of these are exceeded, but all grade C criteria are met, the board is assigned to grade C. A board that does not meet even the grade C criteria is considered unsuitable for supply under this specification and cannot be included in the permitted grade C tolerance. Rotten knots and rot are not permitted at delivery, regardless of their extent; criteria for the application of an additional warranty do not alter this prohibition.

4 Quantity tolerance for grade C

4.1. Each grade A/B Order line may contain no more than 10 % grade C boards, calculated by the number of boards actually delivered, not by linear or square metres. If the Order expressly specifies grade C, the entire line is assessed against the grade C criteria and the 10 % limit for an A/B line does not apply.

4.2. A separate Order line is a group of boards with the same profile, timber species, thickness, width, length and colour or finish. If any one of these characteristics differs, the tolerance is calculated separately.

4.3. The number of grade C boards in the line is divided by the total number of boards in that line and multiplied by 100 %. The result must not exceed 10 %. The permitted quantity is rounded down to a whole number of boards: 10 grade C boards are permitted out of 100, 7 out of 75, 2 out of 20, and 0 out of 9.

4.4. All grade C boards, for all reasons combined, count towards the limit. Each board is counted once, even if it has several features. Quantities from different Order lines are not combined; unused tolerance is not transferred. Rotten knots, rot and other defects not permitted in grade C cannot be justified by the tolerance.

5 Inspection and resolution of non-conformities

Inspection and notification are carried out in accordance with the sales contract. An initial sample inspection does not in itself establish the final grade ratio for the entire Order line. Each board is inspected before installation; if the 10 % limit is suspected to have been exceeded, the entire relevant line is sorted and counted. Disputed boards must not be installed and must be retained for inspection.

Grade C boards exceeding the permitted quantity for a particular A/B Order line, and all boards that fail to meet even the grade C criteria, constitute a non-conformity in supply. Remedies are set out in the contract. The 10 % tolerance does not apply to accepted warranty defects. This specification applies to Orders in which it is identified as the agreed quality specification.