

<p>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT Assistant Secretary for Housing-Federal Housing Commissioner</p> <p>TO: DIRECTORS, HOUSING DIVISION DIRECTORS, MULTIFAMILY DIVISION DIRECTORS, SINGLE FAMILY DIVISION</p>	<p>USE OF MATERIALS BULLETIN NO. 70b</p> <hr/> <p>DATE ISSUED: February 2, 1998</p>
<p>SUBJECT: HUD BUILDING PRODUCT STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR PARTICLEBOARD INTERIOR STAIR TREADS</p>	

Members of the HUD staff processing cases and inspecting construction, shall use this information in determining acceptability of the subject products for the use indicated.

This bulletin should be filed with bulletins on Special Methods of Construction and Materials as required by prescribed procedures. Additional copies may be requisitioned by the Field Offices.

The technical description, requirements and limitations expressed herein do not constitute an endorsement, or approval by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD/FHA) of the subject matter, and any statement or representation, however made, indicating approval or endorsement by the Department of Housing and Urban Development is unauthorized and false, and will be considered a violation of the United States Criminal Code 18, U.S.C. 709.

Any reproduction of this Bulletin must be in its entirety and any use in sales promotion or advertising is not authorized.

Subject to good workmanship, compliance with applicable codes, and the methods of application listed herein, the products described in this bulletin may be considered suitable for HUD housing programs, including Housing for the Elderly and Care-Type Housing.

The eligibility of a property under these programs is determined on the property as an entity and involves the consideration of underwriting and other factors not indicated herein. Thus, compliance with this bulletin should not be construed as qualifying the property as a whole, or any part thereof, as to its eligibility.

The method of application for the products listed herein are considered a part of the HUD Minimum Property Standards and shall remain effective until this bulletin is cancelled or superseded.

HUD BUILDING PRODUCT STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
FOR PARTICLEBOARD INTERIOR STAIR TREADS

GENERAL - ADMINISTRATION:

This certification program shall be administered by organizations that qualify under the Administrator Qualifications and Procedures of the HUD Building Product Standards and Certification Program, and shall comply with 24 CFR 200.935, except as modified by the provisions of this Use of Materials Bulletin 70b (UM 70b). Copies of Administrator Qualifications and Procedures for the HUD Building Products Standards and Certification Program may be obtained from:

Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
451 7th Street, SW, Room 9152
Washington, DC 20410-8000

The procedures for carrying out the certification program for particleboard interior stair treads shall be in accordance with 24 CFR Section 200.935 and this UM which supplements 200.935 by providing that:

1. The certification labels containing the Administrator's mark shall be permanently affixed to every particleboard interior stair tread.
2. The following additional information shall be on the certification label:
 - (a) The manufacturer's name, location and mill number.
 - (b) The manufacturer's statement of conformance to UM 70b.
 - (c) Interior use only: Install in sheltered buildings
3. At least every three months, the Administrator shall visit the manufacturer's facility to select a sample for testing in a laboratory approved by the Administrator.
4. The Administrator also shall review the quality assurance procedures twice a year to assure that they are being followed by the Administrator.

DESCRIPTION:

Particleboard interior stair treads accepted under this Bulletin are urea resin bonded intermediate density mat-formed particleboard complying with ANSI A208.1, Grade M-3 except that face screw holding capacity shall be 225 lbs. minimum and edge screw holding capacity shall be 200 lbs. minimum.

Particleboard stair treads shall be 1 1/16 inch minimum thickness and 12 inches maximum width with one edge bullnosed to standard tread bullnose pattern.

STANDARDS:

Particleboard interior stair tread products shall be designed, manufactured and tested in compliance with the following American National Standards Institute (ANSI): ANSI A 208.1-1993 "Particleboard" Grade M-3. Copies of this standard are available from the American National Standards Institute, Inc., 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.

WARP TOLERANCES AND MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE:

Warp tolerances shall not exceed the following: Cup - 1/8 inch. Bow and Twist - 1/32 inch per lineal foot of specimen length.

- A. SPECIMEN - The warp tolerance specimen shall be a finished product or shall be cut from a length of finished product. The specimen shall be the length and width required by end use, but the specimen length shall not exceed 8 feet.
- B. PROCEDURE - The specimen shall be laid on a flat surface during measurement of warp tolerances.

CUP - Cup is a deviation flatwise from a straight line stretched across the width of the specimen. It is measured at the point of greatest distance from the straight line to the product surface.

BOW - Bow is a deviation flatwise from a straight line stretched parallel to the length of the specimen. It is measured at the point of greatest distance from the straight line to the product surface.

TWIST - Twist is a deviation from a plane in which one corner of a piece twists so that the four corners of a surface are no longer in the same plane. It is measured by holding three corners of the test specimen snugly against a horizontal flat surface and measuring the distance the fourth corner raised above the flat surface.

- C. CALCULATIONS AND REPORT - Measurements for bow, cup, and twist shall be made to the nearest 1/64 inch.

Cup shall be reported in inches.

Bow shall be calculated by dividing the measured deviation by the specimen length and reported in inches per lineal foot.

Twist shall be calculated by dividing the measured deviation by the specimen length and reported in inches per lineal foot.

LIMITATIONS AND INSTALLATION:

- A. Particleboard interior stair treads shall be limited stairways subject to normal design loads in one- and two-family residences. They shall not be installed until the building is sheltered.
- B. Particleboard interior stair treads shall be covered with carpeting or other finished flooring material.
- C. The maximum distance between stringers shall be 42 inches.
- D. Particleboard interior stair treads shall be installed, using conventional framing and fastening practices, in compliance with all applicable requirements of the HUD Minimum Property Standards and the instructions in this UM Bulletin.
- E. Each particleboard interior stair tread shall be supported at both front and back by a full length 1 inch (nominal) wood board or 3/4 inch structural grade plywood riser fastened with both nails and structural adhesives. Structural adhesives shall comply with UM 60a.

The tread shall be glued and nailed to the front riser with 8-penny finish nails spaced a maximum of 12 inches on center. The back riser shall extend down flush with or past the bottom of the tread and shall be glued and nailed to the tread through the center of the back edge of the tread with 8-penny box nails spaced a maximum of 6 inches on center. The nosing shall not extend beyond the riser more than 1 1/8 inch.

- F. Stairs which may be subject to wet foot traffic should have the treads protected with a waterproof wearing surface such as vinyl sheet floor covering. When carpeting is used in these areas, the treads shall be protected with a suitable moisture resistance coating before installation of the carpet.

HANDLING AND STORAGE:

Particleboard interior stair treads shall be handled and stored to avoid excessive moisture pickup. Particleboard interior stair treads shall be acclimatized to its surroundings for 24 hours before installation.

ADMINISTRATORS:

Qualified organizations interested in becoming Administrators under the HUD Building Product Standards and Certification Program for particleboard interior stair treads shall submit their request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410-8000. The following Administrator has been accepted by HUD as qualified to validate particleboard interior stair treads:



Composite Panel Association
18928 Premiere Court
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
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