

# Timber Preparation Guidelines



## Decking, Retaining Wall, Fence Palings, Fence Capping, Machined ½ Rounds and External Structural Timber

All these outdoor products, and others, used in external weather-exposed positions are supplied in a “treated wet” condition which is the general process for similar product sold in New Zealand. To minimise shrinkage and distortion due to the drying out of the moisture within the timber it is recommended you follow the procedures below before the timber is fixed in place

- Timber should be filleted on site to dry. Depending on product types and on weather conditions drying duration can differ. Please see below for recommendations. It is advised fillets should be even size and that ends should be supported to minimize bending during this time. Packets should be supported with bearers under the fillets.
- Timber stacks should be covered on top to protect from sun and rain but sides left open to allow air flow through the stack.
- Any cut ends, checks, joints and drilled holes should be treated with timber preservative. Ask your local building supplies store for appropriate products.
- If timber is being painted, stained or oiled this may improve or affect the durability of the product.
- Ensure timber is fixed using an appropriate method. Tumu Timbers advises the use of screws when laying decking.

### Recommended drying duration

- Decking, Fence Capping, Fence Palings – minimum of 10 days\*
- Retaining Wall, ½ Rounds, Fence Rails, Structural Timber – minimum of 3 weeks\*

\*These times may vary depending on weather conditions, location of source, product density and moisture content at time of sale. Finished sizing can also vary depending on its properties, what part of the log its cut from, it's positioning in a pack and other variables.

By air drying these products for a period it will allow excess moisture in the timber to dry out and the timber to acclimatise to the conditions. Individual boards must be dried evenly to ensure sizing remains consistent.

Tumu Timbers is not responsible for the quality of work carried out on the goods by the consumer and is not responsible for the design or construction of any structure that the goods are incorporated in.