

ZINC SHEET HANDLING & STORAGE GUIDE

Technical Guidance Document – Metal Sheets Ltd

Purpose

This guide provides practical advice for the correct handling and storage of zinc sheets and fabricated zinc products supplied by Metal Sheets Ltd. It applies to materials supplied for use in table tops, bar tops, wall panels, signage, kitchen countertops, worktops and other architectural applications.

Following these recommendations will help prevent surface marking, staining and moisture-related corrosion prior to fabrication or installation.

Applies to: Natural zinc sheets, pre-patinated zinc sheets and fabricated zinc products and components supplied by Metal Sheets Ltd.

Delivery & Inspection

- Inspect materials immediately on delivery.
- Report any visible transport damage within 24 hours.
- Ensure sheets remain fully supported during unloading.
- Do not drag sheets from pallets.
- Lift sheets clear rather than sliding them across each other.

Storage – General Principles

- Store indoors in a dry, well-ventilated area.
- Keep off the ground on timber bearers or pallets.
- Store flat and fully supported across their length.
- Keep away from sources of moisture or condensation.
- Avoid direct contact with concrete floors.
- Avoid external storage without full weather protection.
- Avoid sudden temperature changes that may create condensation between sheets.

Preventing White Rust

- Keep sheets dry at all times prior to installation.

- Ensure ventilation around stored packs.
- Separate sheets immediately if they become wet and allow them to dry fully.
- Avoid tightly wrapping sheets in non-breathable plastic outdoors.

White rust is generally cosmetic rather than structural, but it may affect surface appearance. Moisture control is the most important factor in protecting zinc surfaces before installation.

Protective Packaging

- Leave protective wrapping in place until required.
- If packs are opened, re-cover with breathable sheeting.
- Store partially used packs elevated and ventilated.

Handling Precautions

- Wear clean gloves to reduce marking.
- Avoid sliding sheets across each other.
- Do not drag sheets across rough surfaces.
- Protect edges and corners from impact.
- Keep work areas clean and free from debris.

Avoid Contact With

- Wet or treated timber.
- Cement, mortar or lime residues.
- Steel swarf or carbon steel contamination.
- Standing water.
- Damp construction materials.

On-Site Storage

- Store under cover and protected from rain.
- Keep elevated and ventilated.
- Avoid long-term temporary storage outdoors.
- Unwrap sheets only immediately prior to fabrication or installation.

Need Advice?

If you are unsure about storage or handling conditions for your project, contact Metal Sheets Ltd before installation.

This document provides general handling and storage guidance only. Installation methods and project-specific requirements remain the responsibility of the contractor and specifier.