

Particleboards — Definition and classification

The European Standard EN 309:2005 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 79.060.20

National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/541, Wood based panels, which has the responsibility to:

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This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 9 February 2005

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, the EN title page, pages 2 to 6, an inside back cover and a back cover.

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Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

© BSI 9 February 2005

ISBN 0 580 45418 5

English version

Particleboards - Definition and classification

Panneaux de particules - Définition et classification

Spanplatten - Definition und Klassifizierung

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Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels

Contents

	page
Foreword.....	3
1 Scope	4
2 Terms and definitions	4
3 Classification	4
Bibliography	6

Foreword

This document (EN 309:2005) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 112 "Wood-based panels", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by July 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 2005.

This document supersedes EN 309:1992.

The following modifications have been made:

- a) Oriented Strand Boards (OSB) and waferboards are not covered any more.
- b) The classification according to the use has been adapted to the panel types according to EN 312 and EN 13986.
- c) Boards with improved resistance to biological attack, fire retardant boards and sound absorbing boards are not explicitly mentioned any more.

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1 Scope

This document gives a definition and a classification for particleboards.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following term and definition applies.

particleboard

panel material manufactured under pressure and heat from particles of wood (wood flakes, chips, shavings, sawdust and similar) and/or other lignocellulosic material in particle form (flax shives, hemp shives, bagasse fragments, straw and similar), with the addition of a polymeric adhesive

NOTE Particleboards with mineral binders are dealt with in other documents.

3 Classification

3.1 General

Particleboards can be classified according to different criteria and it is impossible to give an absolute classification here. However, for this document, particleboards are classified as follows:

3.2 According to the manufacturing process

- flat pressed
- drum pressed
- extruded
 - a) solid
 - b) with tubes

3.3 According to the state of surface

- as pressed (unsanded)
- sanded or planed
- coated (liquid coating, e.g. paint)
- surfaced under pressure with a solid material (e.g. veneer, impregnated decorative paper, decorative laminated sheet, foil)

3.4 According to the shape

- flat
- with profiled surface
- with profiled edge

3.5 According to the size and shape of particles

e.g.

- chipboard
- panels with other particles, e.g. shives (flaxboard)

3.6 According to the board's structure

- single-layer boards
- multi-layer boards
- boards with graduated structure
- extruded boards with tubes (see 3.2.)

3.7 According to the use

- general purpose boards for use in dry conditions
- boards for interior fitments (including furniture) for use in dry conditions
- non load-bearing boards for use in humid conditions
- load-bearing boards for use in dry conditions
- load-bearing boards for use in humid condition
- heavy duty load-bearing boards for use in dry conditions
- heavy duty load-bearing boards for use in humid conditions

Bibliography

- [1] prEN 300, *Oriented Strand Boards (OSB) - Definitions, classification and specifications*
- [2] EN 312, *Particleboards — Specifications*
- [3] EN 13986, *Wood-based panels for use in construction — Characteristics, evaluation of conformity and marking*

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