



Institut luxembourgeois de la normalisation  
de l'accréditation, de la sécurité et qualité  
des produits et services

**ILNAS-EN 14272:2011**

## **Plywood - Calculation method for some mechanical properties**

Contreplaqué - Méthode de calcul pour  
certaines caractéristiques mécaniques

Sperrholz - Rechenverfahren für einige  
mechanische Eigenschaften

**12/2011**



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## Plywood - Calculation method for some mechanical properties

Contreplaqué - Méthode de calcul pour certaines  
caractéristiques mécaniques

Sperrholz - Rechenverfahren für einige mechanische  
Eigenschaften

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 1 October 2011.

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## Foreword

This document (EN 14272:2011) 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2012, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2012.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes ENV 14272:2002.

Annex A and Annex B are normative.

Compared to ENV 14272:2002, the following modifications have been made:

- a) calculation applies to panels of any composition, symmetrical or not;
- b) values resulting for the panels can be used for calculation as characteristics values as required by EN 1995-1-1;
- c) new Annex A (normative) provides the derivation for the veneer values (basic values);
- d) new Annex B (normative) provides practical spreadsheets to derive the properties;
- e) new Annex C (informative) gives an example of bending strength.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard specifies, for plywood panels of any composition, symmetrical or not, a calculation method to derive some mechanical properties (strength and stiffness in bending, tension, compression, panel and planar shear) as well as density from the wood compounding the layers.

**NOTE** Usually, the lay-up of the panels is symmetrical but, very often, the surface appearance of the face and the surface appearance of the back face differ, hence a difference between the mechanical properties of the respective veneers. Therefore, in this case, the composition is not mechanically symmetrical and a symmetry independent calculation method is needed.

Provided that structural characteristic values are taken for the layers, the resulting values for the panels can be used as characteristic values as required by EN 1995-1-1.

Conversely, Annex A defines the procedures to derive the veneer properties, in bending, tension and compression, either from testing panels according to EN 789 and EN 1058 or from timber testing according to EN 408 or from imposed values defined in EN 338.

Annex B provides practical spreadsheets, which are applications of the equations in the main part of this standard.

Annex C provide an example for the calculation of bending strength, in accordance with Annex B.

## 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 325, *Wood-based panels — Determination of dimensions of test pieces*

EN 338:2009, *Structural timber — Strength classes*

EN 384, *Structural timber — Determination of characteristic values of mechanical properties and density*

EN 408, *Timber structures — Structural timber and glued laminated timber — Determination of some physical and mechanical properties*

EN 789, *Timber structures — Test methods — Determination of mechanical properties of wood based panels*

EN 1058, *Wood-based panels — Determination of characteristic 5-percentile values and characteristic mean values*

EN 12369-2, *Wood-based panels — Characteristic values for structural design — Part 2 Plywood*

EN 14358, *Timber structures — Calculation of characteristic 5-percentile values and acceptance criteria for a sample*

## 3 Principle

Using the mechanical properties of the wood species, which compound the layers (in this standard referred to as veneer or basic values), it consists in deriving, by calculation, the mechanical properties of a panel.

For bending, tension and compression, each layer property value, along and across the length of the panel, is weighted by a geometrical factor related to its weight in the panel cross section.

In this standard, where a value for a given property of the veneers is derived with a specified test method (including exploitation of the results), the models in this standard will provide a panel value for that property as if derived with the specified test method.

**EXAMPLE** For instance, if, in a panel composition, a specified percentile of a bending property of veneers is determined with EN 789 and EN 1058, the calculated value of the bending property of the panel will be its specified percentile as if determined by using EN 789 and EN 1058.

## 4 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 4.1

#### **characteristic strength**

population fifth percentile value relating to a temperature of 20 °C and a relative humidity of 65 %

### 4.2

#### **characteristic stiffness**

either the population fifth percentile or the mean value relating to a temperature of 20 °C and a relative humidity of 65 %

### 4.3

#### **characteristic density**

population fifth percentile value with mass and volume corresponding to equilibrium at a temperature of 20 °C and a relative humidity of 65 % either of the wood species or of the panels, single species or mixed species

**NOTE** The density values found from calculation refer to the minimum acceptable density of veneers used in the lay-up of plywood. In the case of single species plywood these values are taken as the characteristic values for the plywood. In the case of mixed species plywood the characteristic value of density of the panel is calculated from the characteristic densities of the individual veneers according to the proportion of each species

### 4.4

#### **veneer value or basic value**

characteristic value of a property to be used for each layer in the equations of the calculation method

**NOTE** Characteristic values of the wood species, along and across the grain, are fifth percentile values for strength but either mean values or fifth percentile values for stiffness (modulus of elasticity).

### 4.5

#### **reference panel value**

value of a given mechanical property of a panel composition

**NOTE** It is to be used to derive the veneer value (or basic value) of the property.

## 5 Symbols

### 5.1 Main symbols

$A$  area ( $b \cdot t_{\text{nom}}$ ), in square millimetres

$f$  strength, in Newtons per square millimetre

$E$  modulus of elasticity, in Newton per square millimetre

$F_s$  shear forces in a bending panel, in Newtons