

# TG7:15

## Scaffold Board Nailplates



Scaffold Board nail plates are specially stamped toothed strips of galvanised steel that can be used to help prevent scaffold boards developing splits, or in repairing scaffold boards that have split. Solid sawn timber scaffold boards are subject to longitudinal end splits, due primarily to the environment in which they are used. Where such fissures or splits have occurred at the end of the board, these may be repaired by embedding nailplates into each face. The maximum length of split that may be repaired by this method is 225mm. If the split is longer than this, refer to TG6.

Nailplates form part of a system and should only be embedded by using the correct type of machine. This is normally a hydraulic machine that exerts a side clamping pressure whilst embedding the nailplate into each face of the board. The machine also rolls the plate edges below the board surface.

Nailplates are made from galvanised sheet steel stamped or pressed into a pattern of slots in such a way that sharp strips of steel are bent from the ends of the slots to project at approximately 90 deg. from the underside of the plate. The plate should be a minimum thickness of 0.7mm (22 gauge), have a minimum width of 27mm and a minimum length of 190mm. There should be a minimum of 42 teeth per plate and at least 50% of these teeth shall have a length of greater than 8mm. To be effective two plates are required to be attached across each end of the board (one on each face) and should be positioned within 230mm of the end of the board.

The nailplates are attached by being pressed into the face of the scaffold board until the upper surface of the nailplate is flush with the surface of the board. Before the nailplate is inserted, pressure should be applied to the sides of the board in order to close any fissures that may be present.

Nailplates can be applied to new or used boards and experience gained over many years by the scaffold industry indicates that the service life of a board can be substantially extended by the use of these nailplates.

Where boards are cropped or the end plates are missing nailplates embossed with the required marking (ie grading system or span details), can be used instead of, or in addition to, traditional end hoops. See TG6 Care & Maintenance of Scaffold Boards.

The above recommendations on the use of nailplates equally apply to the solid timber battens normally used on prefabricated scaffold systems.

*Whilst every effort has been made to provide reliable and accurate information, we would welcome any corrections to information provided by the Writer which may not be entirely accurate, therefore and for this reason, the NASC or indeed the Writer, cannot accept responsibility for any misinformation posted.*



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