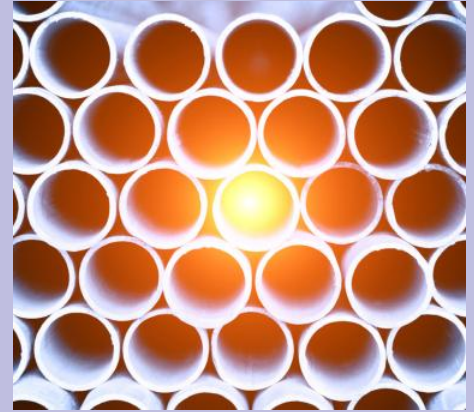


Prepare:	Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?
Reason:	Unsafe stacking can lead to serious injuries
Why:	Do not find yourself underneath an unsafe stack
Outline:	This talk will cover general points and stacking of bricks, timber, pipes and prefabricated panels



- When handling materials wear work gloves and safety boots as necessary e.g. sharp edges or heavier loads.
- Only stack material in authorised areas. Never near doorways, accessways or on fire escape routes. Stack on a level surface and provide packing.
- Never make stacks higher than 3 times the minimum base width.

- Consider in what order materials will be unloaded from a stack and then load it accordingly.
- Stack close to work area to reduce amount of handling.
- If material is being lowered by machine keep hands clear of load.

- Ensure base of stack is level. Only stack two packs high.
- Ensure upper pack is loaded squarely onto lower one.
- If banding is damaged or materials are displaced in the pack, do not stack other materials on top.
- Leave sufficient space between pallets for safe removal.

NOTES

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

TOOLBOX TALK #32

Safe stacking of materials

NOTES

Timber

- Racks are the best method of storing small sized timbers.
- Joists and larger timbers should be placed on bearers.
- Try to keep different lengths in separate stacks.

Q: What should be used when stacking larger timbers?

Large Prefabricated Panels

- Stack flat or store secured in designed racks.
- Do not lean against parts of semi constructed buildings.
- Do not lean against temporary structures.
- Do not store upright where panels can be affected by wind.

Q: Where and how should panels be stacked?

Pipes And Tubes

- Where pipes are small in diameter, stack in racks.
- If large in diameter, securely chock at the base.
- Do not stack in pyramids as they can become unstable.
- Large concrete rings must be laid flat so that they cannot be moved or rolled by any person, especially children.

Q: How should you secure large diameter pipes?

Do you have any questions for me?

Questions for you

Q: How can you reduce the amount of handling? **Q:** Where should you not stack large panels?

REMEMBER:

STACK SAFE - STAY SAFE

Sources: [Workplace management - HSE Materials storage and waste management - HSE](#)
[Health and safety in construction HSG150 Stacking sawn timber and board materials: Safe working practices WIS2](#)

For more information

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