



## DS Smith Sheetfeeding Information Sheet

# Storage of Corrugated Board

Paper is hygroscopic, which means it will gain or lose moisture depending on the surrounding environment.

For optimal performance follow the simple guidelines.

When storage is impossible under normal conditions of temperature and relative humidity the product should at least be brought to the production lines for a recommended period of time of 24 hours before being used unless, as may exist in certain operations, the conditions around the production area are either extremely humid or extremely dry. If both the storage and production areas are at extreme conditions then the product should be used as soon as possible and remain stretch wrapped until the time for use.

Conditioning of the corrugated board in optimum climatic conditions must exist for achieving high-quality results with cardboard.

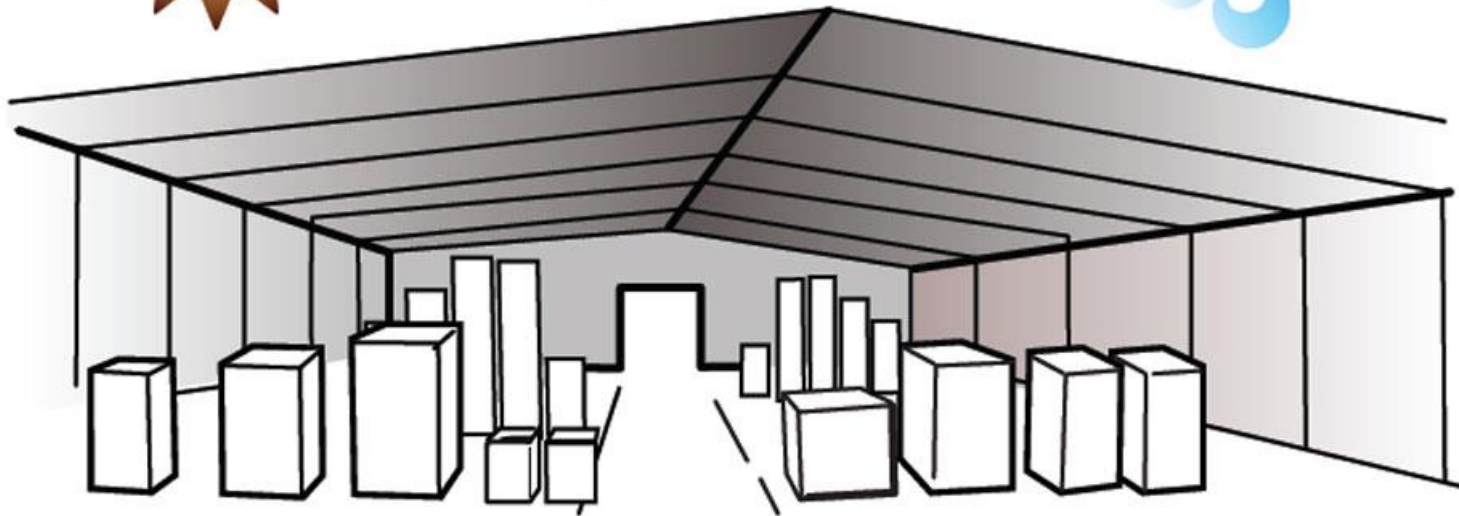
It is extremely important to allow the substrate to become acclimatised to the environment of the production room.

The effect of relative humidity, and temperature can change the properties of the corrugated board. It is proven that corrugated board absorbs more water under air circulation than in still air. It is well known that corrugated board is sensitive to ambient atmospheric conditions. The cellulosic fibres, from which the corrugated material is made absorb water, swell and weaken at high humidity and release water and stiffen at low humidity.

### Always store under cover in a still air environment

<b>Title:</b>	Storage of Corrugated board		<b>System area:</b>	ISO 9001	
<b>Site:</b>	D S Smith Sheetfeeding		<b>Owner:</b>	N. Walden	
<b>Issue No.</b>	1	<b>Document No:</b>	Info01	<b>Approved:</b>	Draft
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**Store on dry flat pallets in a horizontal plane until used.**

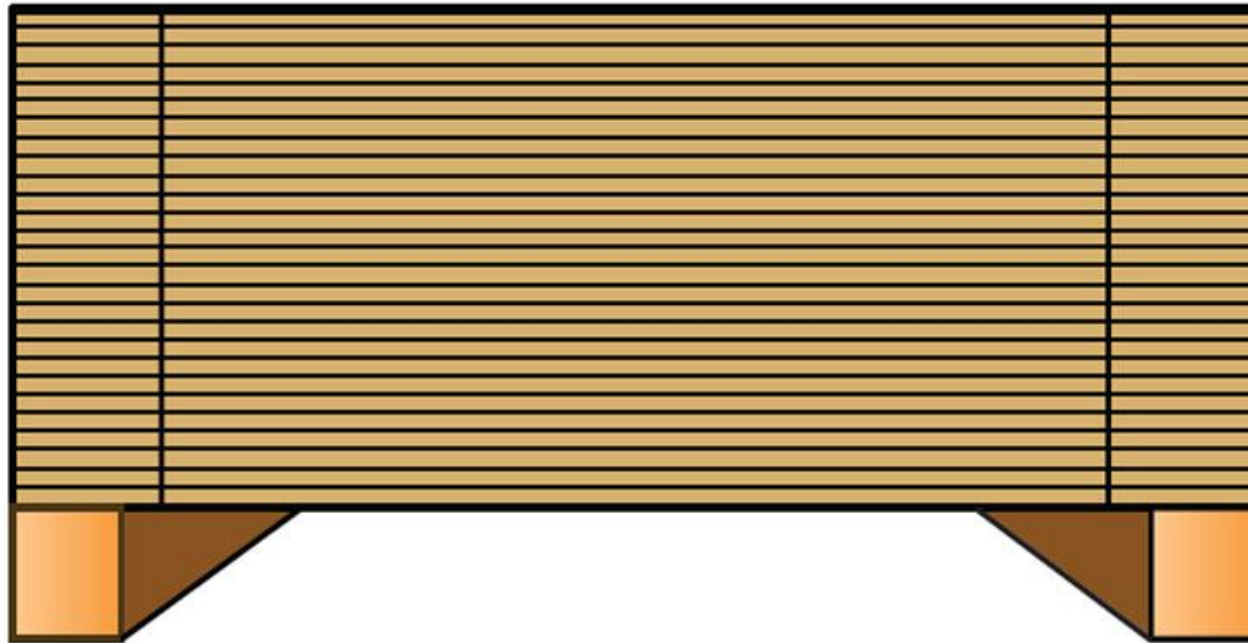
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If storage conditions are at extremes keep stretch wrapped.

To reduce the risk of warp keep material stretch wrapped until required for use

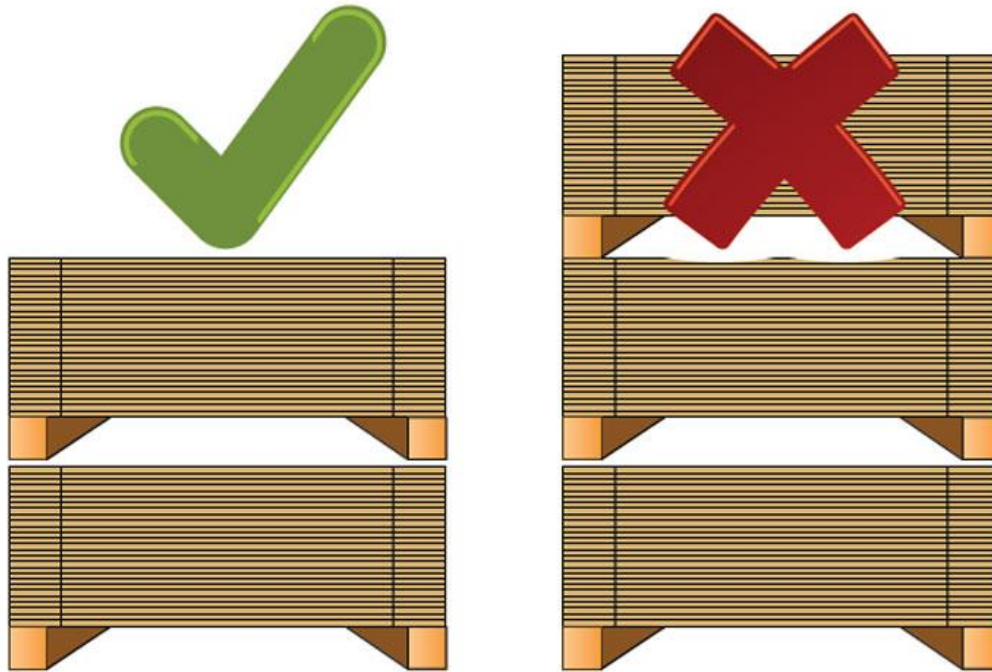


### We do not recommend stacking pallets more than 2 high

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**Store in atmospheric conditions of between 50 and 70% relative humidity.**

Extremes of temperature should be avoided. If conditions are comfortable to work in they are normally good for storage.

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General notes – transit & Storage conditions – (Ambient - Refrigerated & Frozen)

**Transit** - One point to look out for is cyclic humidity; where we see swings in highs and lows throughout the duration of the supply chain. Over a long enough supply chain these cycles in humidity can be more harmful than stable. This introduces what is known as 'creep' where the fibres are subject to cycles in humidity and the bond between the fibres begins to breakdown and weakening the material

**Ambient** - If the customer is placing the product into storage for 6 months, and this is in a variable environment, with cycles of humidity (i.e. storage doors are being left open and warm air is hitting the boxes) then this will be more demanding.

**Refrigerated & frozen** If the product is being placed into Frozen storage and this is in a stable environment, then we should not see too much of an impact. The issue will likely come from the thawing and freezing cycle, and whether there are any high demands on Board Strength during this phase. Frozen is typically kinder than refrigerated, as refrigerated has a higher RH than frozen.

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