Structural Recycled HDPE Plastic Lumber

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Features and Applications

Performance features of recycled HDPE plastic lumber include:

- Low maintenance
- Long life expectancy
- Various lengths
- No rotting
- No splintering
- No painting or staining
- Cuts, drills, and secures just like wood
- Available in multiple profiles
- Available in a variety of colors
- Textured surfaces
- Continuous piece construction
- Environmentally friendly
- Resistant to marine borers, termites, fungus, salt, and oils

Examples of applications suitable for structural recycled HDPE plastic lumber are retaining walls, fencing, decks, large equipment mats, light commercial, and many industrial, agricultural, and marine applications.

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Composition

Structural recycled HDPE plastic lumber is a high-performance structural product manufactured from high-quality HDPE, ultraviolet stabilizers, colorants, and fiberglass strands to increase rigidity. This added rigidity creates characteristics suited for many structural applications where a wider span, dimensional stability, increased flexural strength, or higher rigidity is required. Due to the increased strength and its resistance to environmental elements, structural recycled HDPE plastic lumber is well suited for exterior applications where structural support or load bearing is required. It is manufactured in many different profiles and lengths.

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Sample Installation Considerations (refer to manufacturer's guidelines)

1. **Structural Ability:** Structural recycled HDPE plastic lumber is recommended for structural use, but care needs to be used in the design of the structure. In most cases, the deflection will control the needed size of boards. Refer to the manufacturer's span tables to determine support requirements based on live load and ambient temperature.

2. **Expansion/Contraction:** Structural recycled HDPE plastic lumber expands and contracts along its length based on temperature. A calculation of change in length in inches can be done by using the formula supplied by the manufacturer. This expansion and contraction on short lengths is minimal, but if you are using longer lengths, and are in a climate with large temperature change, you need to take into account the expansion/contraction of the board in the design.

3. **Fastening:** Same as for recycled HDPE plastic lumber.
4. **Butt Joints:** Same as for recycled HDPE plastic lumber.
5. **Rip Cutting:** Same as for recycled HDPE plastic lumber.