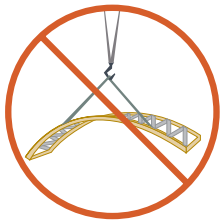
# Safety Notes:

## ALTERATIONS!

A timber truss is an engineered structural component, designed and manufactured for specific conditions. Timber trusses must not be sawn, drilled or cut unless explicit written approval from the truss manufacturer is received. Unauthorised alterations may seriously impair the truss strength and could lead to failure of the structure.

## WEATHER!

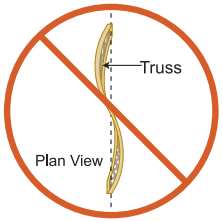
Trusses should be kept dry while they are waiting to be erected. Exposure to weather conditions can cause damage to trusses which can result in gaps between the timber and nailplate.



## LIFTING!

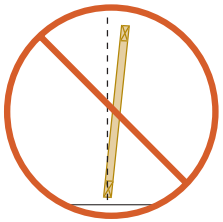
When lifting, special care must be taken to avoid damage to truss joints. If it is necessary to handle a truss on its side, precautions must be taken to avoid damage due to sagging. Spreader bars (with attachment to panel points) must be used where the span exceeds 9000mm.

# On-Site Truss Erection & Handling




## BOWING!

Trusses must be erected with minimal bow in the truss or in chord members. The bow must not exceed “the length of bowed section/200” or 50mm whichever is the minimum.



## LEANING!

Trusses must be erected so that no part of the truss is out of plumb with a tolerance not exceeding the lesser of “height/50” or 50mm.

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# Correct On-Site Truss Erection & Handling

**For more information on Erecting Trusses consult the Australian Standard AS4440 - Installation of Nailplated Timber Truss & the Multinail publication 'The Guide'.**

**These documents also have information on required construction details.**

## BEFORE YOU START

Before trusses are erected they must be checked to ensure that:

- they comply with the requirements of the job. ie; roofing and ceiling material, additional unit loads such as hot water tanks, solar heaters, air conditioners, etc.
- all relevant documents received with the trusses comply with the intended use of the trusses.
- the quality of all trusses are scrutinised, ie; checked for damage during transport, broken members, missing plates, etc. Any damage or poor quality in truss manufacture should be reported back to the fabricator immediately.

DO NOT attach any fall arrests or guardrail system to the trusses unless explicit written approval from the truss fabricator is received.

Wall frames (see Framing Code AS1684) must also be checked to ensure they will be able to adequately support and hold down the trusses and their associated roof, ceiling or floor loads. The building must be stable horizontally before, during and after construction.

## INSPECTION & STORAGE

Trusses should be inspected on arrival at site.

Any damaged trusses should be reported immediately and not site repaired without the approval of the truss fabricator.

Trusses may be transported either vertically or horizontally provided that in either case they are fully supported.

Bundles (or individual trusses) should be stored flat and kept dry. Gluts or packers should be placed at 3000mm maximum spacing to support the trusses off the ground.

## TEMPORARY BRACING

All trusses are required to be braced (temporary and/or permanently) and stabilised throughout the installation of the roof truss system.

As with any construction site, a risk assessment must be undertaken, as truss installation invariably involves working at heights.

All relevant workplace safety practices must be followed.

## PERMANENT BRACING

Before loading, the roof trusses must be permanently braced back to a rigid building structure, usually the supporting walls, to prevent rotation or buckling of the trusses.

Permanent bracing relies upon the roof bracing along with the roof battens to effectively restrain the loads in the trusses and the wind loads.

## INSTALLATION TOLERANCES

Trusses must be installed straight and vertical and in their correct position.

The best method for ensuring the correct truss positioning is to mark the locations on the top plate in accordance with the truss layout prior to truss erection.

## REMEMBER

**All trusses are to be erected in accordance with the Australian Standard AS4440, 'The Installation of Nailplated Timber Trusses'.**