6 Wood, Plastics & Composites

NOTE: Significant revisions or additions to the previous standards are highlighted in italics.

GENERAL
Designers shall verify that all applicable portions of these standards are incorporated into the project’s design, drawings, specifications and final construction. Requests for variances from these standards shall be submitted in writing to the DCM Project Manager, using the KU Standards Variance Request Form found in Appendix A1.1, for review and written approval or rejection as indicated on the form.

RELATED DOCUMENTS & REQUIREMENTS
Refer to the following for requirements that also apply to work of this section.
- Division 1 - General Requirements: includes construction testing and field quality control requirements.
- Division 5 – Metals: includes fasteners for wood nailers, blocking and miscellaneous wood framing members.
- Division 11 – Equipment: Includes laboratory equipment and countertops.
- Division 12 – Furnishings: Includes pre-manufactured casework.

ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK – DESIGN GUIDELINES

Built-In Cabinetry: The use of "built-in" furniture, bookshelves, and equipment is discouraged. The inclusion of such items should be discussed with the Office of Design and Construction Management before incorporating them into the project.

Standard Sizes: Custom millwork is recommended to be detailed in standard-sized modules of approximate 3'-0" lengths for future flexibility.

Countertops:
- Countertops in food preparation kitchens, restrooms and wet laboratories shall be made of solid composition or quartz materials.
- Plastic laminate tops are only acceptable in dry laboratory or kitchenette environments.
- Laboratory or scientific equipment countertops: refer to the Division 11 and 12 standards.
  - "Trespa" tops are NOT acceptable, due to durability problems KU has experienced with them.

Window Sills: Solid composition materials shall be used for window sills, in lieu of plastic laminate fabrications, due to their superior moisture resistance and permanence.
Laminate Substrates: All plastic laminate substrates shall be MDF materials. Particle board and plywood shall not be used as a substrate for plastic laminates.

ROUGH CARPENTRY – 061000

Spacing:
- Wood framing in walls shall be spaced a maximum of 16 inches on center.

Moisture-Resistant Treated Materials:
- All wood sill plates, nailers, blocking and wood members in contact with masonry or concrete, or within roofing systems, shall be CCA-treated lumber or plywood.
- Exterior-grade plywood shall be used where there is potential for exposure to moisture.

Fire-Resistant Treated Materials:
- All blocking in walls behind toilets, lavatories, urinals, sinks and other plumbing fixtures shall be fire-treated lumber or plywood.

Telecommunications (IT) Backboards:
- Each networking and telecommunications room shall have not less than one 4’ H x 8’ W plywood panel provided for the mounting of IT wiring and devices, as required by KU’s IT Department.
- Plywood backing panels shall be fire-retardant treated materials.
- Expansion anchor or screw to substrate, at 24” o.c. along perimeter and within field area of each plywood sheet.

ARCHITECTURAL CABINETS – 064110

Particle board or flake board substrates are not allowed for casework or custom woodwork. Use plywood substrate materials for wood veneer cabinetry, and MDF substrate materials for plastic laminate cabinetry.