

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, textured surface of Oriented Strand Board (OSB). It consists of numerous thin, light-brown wood chips and strands of varying lengths and orientations, creating a complex, fibrous pattern. The colors range from pale yellow to a warm, medium brown.

Plywood! (OSB)

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A Brief History...

- **Plywood was invented in ancient times when there was a shortage of quality wood. It began as a thin sheet of wood with several smaller layers glued onto it. Later it was used for decorative inlay work and veneer on furniture.**
- **Over time, it has developed because of the discovery and production of adhesives such as starch, casein glues, vegetable protein glues, and synthetic adhesives that made plywood waterproof.**

Primary Use in Building Construction

- **OSB (oriented slab board) plywood used for load bearing construction is structured with high mechanical properties. It can be structures for both dry and humid conditions**
- **The most common uses are sheathing in walls, flooring, and roof decking.**
- **Some plywood is available with a radiant-barrier layer pre-laminated to one side; this eases installation and increases energy performance of the building envelope**



Origins and Manufacturing



- **Particle board or OSB is cased by wood veneers called the face and the back. It is manufactured from wood chips, shavings, silvers, strands, sawdust, and other by-products of wood. The grain of these pieces (plies) is usually laid at 90 degrees to the face plies to provide stability.**

- **The Manufacturing Process:**

- Particles of wood are produced by cutting, breaking, or friction between larger pieces.**
- The particles are screened, dried, and classified**
- They are then mixed with resin adhesive and other additives to improve its strength, resistance, finishing and durability**
- Lastly, the particles are formed into a board and pressed together**



For a project at Notre Dame, plywood could be sourced from a local lumber production facility.

References

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