



# FASTENER AND HARDWARE USAGE

## HOLD IT TOGETHER

### CHOOSING THE PROPER FASTENERS AND HARDWARE

Lumber treated with micronized copper azole (MCA) offers many benefits, including improved corrosion performance. Culpeper MCA-treated pine exhibits corrosion rates on metal fasteners and hardware similar to CCA-treated lumber and untreated lumber. It's critical that you use the right fasteners and hardware for your project.

#### FOR INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS

Use fasteners and hardware that comply with manufacturer recommendations and building codes for their end use. Do not use MCA-treated lumber where trapped moisture or water can occur. Always use stainless steel fasteners for applications exposed to constant, repetitive, or long periods of wetting.

#### FOR EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS

Follow these recommendations for connectors, joist hangers, fasteners, and other materials in direct contact with exterior applications of MCA-treated lumber:

##### FASTENERS (NAILS, SCREWS, ETC.)

- Pressure treated ground contact with MCA Hot-Dip Galvanized ASTM - A 153 (1 oz./ft<sup>2</sup>)
- Epoxy Coated Carbon Steel (Zinc Plated) AC-257
- Stainless Steel 304, 305 (Alloy Group 1) or 316 (Marine Grade)

##### HARDWARE (CONNECTORS, JOIST HANGERS, ETC.)

- Compliant with ASTM - A 653 G90 (0.90 oz./ft<sup>2</sup>)

Consider other building materials within an assembly as well as environmental factors when selecting fasteners and hardware for a project containing treated lumber.

Type 304, 305, and 316 stainless steel fasteners and hardware are required for below grade permanent wood foundations and for other severe exterior applications such as swimming pools, saltwater exposure, etc.

#### ALUMINUM

Aluminum building products may be placed in direct contact with MCA-treated lumber used for interior uses and above-ground exterior applications such as decks, fencing, and landscaping. Examples include aluminum siding, roofing, gutters, door and window trim, flashing, nails, fasteners, and other connectors. However, direct contact of MCA-treated lumber and aluminum materials should be limited to code-compliant construction providing proper water drainage and prohibiting exposure to, or continual contact with, moisture, standing water, or water immersion. Additionally, to avoid pitting or other unwanted results, do not encase, seal, or wrap MCA-treated lumber with aluminum products where trapped moisture or water may occur.

Contact the aluminum product manufacturer for recommendations regarding use of the aluminum product when in contact with MCA-treated lumber in ground contact applications or when exposed to salt water, brackish water, or chlorinated water, such as swimming pools or hot tubs.

Check with the aluminum building product manufacturer regarding compatibility with other chemicals and cleaning agents.



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