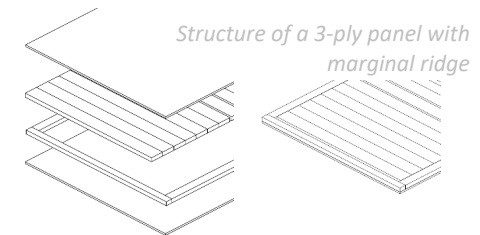

Suction behaviour of the 3-ply panels

It is best if the formwork panels are pre-treated before the first concreting section. Pores are sealed by evenly applying fine mortar to the formwork facing (remove fine mortar after drying). With this method, the absorption behaviour of the formwork panel will be standardised. Irregularities such as resin pockets, cracks etc. on the concrete surface are less noticeable than without pre-treatment. **Another option would be to use the formwork panels once or twice on secondary concrete surfaces before using it for fair-faced concrete surfaces.**



Application of release agent

Always apply as little release agent as possible to the formwork. **A thin application of release agent generally results in a better concrete surface.** When applying release agent to horizontal formwork, wait for it to "air off". This can significantly minimise gutter marks on the formwork. After applying the release agent, remove the formwork cleanly and evenly with a rubber puller, wiper or cloth to prevent overdosing.

Achieving the required result for fair-faced concrete

- Only people who are directly involved in the floor formwork work move on it. **Floor formwork is not used for transit.**
- People who have to move around on the floor formwork wear new or cleaned shoes or are given overshoes (plastic, felt). These are exchanged for other footwear when leaving the floor formwork.
- If possible, reinforcement is not moved on top of existing reinforcement or temporarily stored on formwork facing.
- The finished reinforcement should not be walked on if possible.
- As the reinforcement remains horizontally on the floor formwork for longer periods of time, it is very often likely that rust will be washed off onto the formwork facing. The use of non-rusting reinforcement has proven its worth here.
- Use a release agent with a non-sticky release film (facilitates final cleaning).

Damage to the formwork panels caused by vibrator

Round or elongated rough deepenings on the surface of the formwork panel are possible due to incorrect handling of the vibrator. The surface coating may be partially or completely missing in the damaged areas. The wood is roughened up to a few millimetres deep. The damage is visible on the concrete. The cause is direct contact between the vibrator bottle and the formwork panel over a longer period of time.

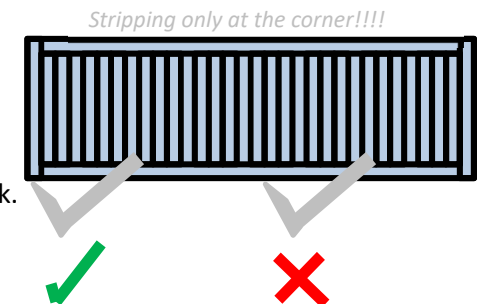
- Measures: Avoid contact between vibrator and plate; **vibrator bottle with rubber cap can reduce or prevent damage.**



Damage to the panel and concrete surface caused by incorrect use of the vibrator.

Removing the formwork

- The dwell time of the concrete in the formwork should be the same for all exposed concrete surfaces.
- Do not leave the concrete in the formwork for too long at high temperatures.
- The process of taking out the formwork should be carried out in one go.
- Remove the formwork elements from the concrete immediately after releasing the anchors. Otherwise, condensation may cause contamination of the concrete surface.
- Loosen the formwork from the concrete as gently as possible using the "rubber hammer".
This prevents damage to the material, which can be reflected in following formwork applications.
- Sharp-edged corners should remain shuttered for longer (greater strength of the concrete), to avoid damage when removing the formwork.
- **Only take out the formwork panels at the corners, not on the long side.**
Due to the structure of the formwork panel with marginal ridge, the corner is the most stable point for removing the formwork. The marginal ridge ensures a much easier, quicker and neat cleaning.



Properties of 3-ply panels - concrete surfaces are the mirror of the formwork facing

The overall impression of the formwork panel used is decisive for a visually appealing concrete surface.

- Do not mix new and used formwork panels. Use formwork panels with approximately the same number of uses.
- Cover the panels to protect them from extreme weather conditions such as sunlight or moisture. This reduces cracking.
- Seal damages with edge varnish (for example: cuts, drilled holes).
- Remove concrete remains from the panels immediately after removing the formwork.
- If there are special requirements for the concrete surface, screw the formwork panels together from the back.