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# Product Suitability

In Bathrooms &  
Kitchens

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# Birch Plywood

We use BB/BB Birch commercial grade plywood in all of our products, which can be exposed to humidity without warping. Additionally, we use exterior glue to bond each layer of the plywood together to prevent the layers from breaking apart. Using exterior glue instead of interior also creates a higher level of water resistance.

Our plywood is also finished with Osmo Oil (Our own blend of two types). This is a stain-resistant, water-repellent, and abrasion-resistant furniture oil that protects the plywood and results in a surface that is pleasant to the touch.

The Osmo oil we use has a viscosity level of >70s DIN EN ISO 2431/3 mm, which provides a medium to high level of water resistance.

As with all wood, excessive exposure to moisture may result in warping/ discoloration of the surface (e.g., if the material is often saturated and poor ventilation restricts the wood from drying). However, both the Formica colour laminates, and the birch plywood are water resistant. We are confident that our products can withstand being exposed to high levels of humidity, and moderate exposure to water if used in a bathroom or kitchen.

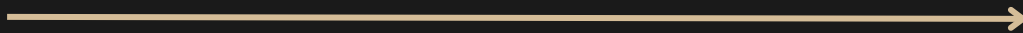
# Formica Laminate

Formica is a low-maintenance material that can withstand a considerable amount of wear and tear. Formica laminates have proven durability, and are resistant to water, chemicals, abrasions, colour fading, stains, and scratching, making them a popular choice for bathrooms and kitchens.

With the correct care this material can last for many years. The following information highlights how to avoid damaging the material to ensure the products' longevity.

**Water Resistance** - The top surface of Formica laminate is 100% waterproof. However, the exposed plywood in which it is bonded, is not. Therefore, if the material is exposed to water for extended periods of time and cracks are present, this may cause moisture to seep under the waterproof layer. This may eventually lead the laminate to warp or bubble if exposed to excessive amount of moisture.

**Heat Exposure** - Formica laminates are heat resistant- and can withstand heat of up to 135°C for short periods of time. However, it is not advised to place hot objects such as cookware from the oven or microwave, hair straighteners or curling irons directly onto the laminate surface. Prolonged exposure to temperatures of 60°C or higher may cause the laminate to separate from the core material. It is advised to use a heat pad, trivet, or other heat protective device to eliminate any risk of heat damage to the laminate surface.



# Formica Laminate

**Scratches** - Formica laminate is resistant to scratches and impacts under 'normal use' conditions. It should be noted that if using on kitchen worktops, the exposure to sharp kitchen utensils such as knives or blows from hammer or meat tenderiser, may slice or crack the surface of the material. It is important to use chopping boards where necessary to avoid this. Imperfections to the materials' surface such as scratches may be detrimental to the resistance of the laminate, and eventually lead to water damage. Do not use abrasive cleaners such as steel wool, scouring pads or sandpaper on this material.

**Chemical Exposure** - Formica laminates are resistant to chemical exposure; however, it is important to avoid using cleaners that contain acid or alkali. These chemicals have the potential to corrode, mark or discolour the laminate surface if not removed immediately. Examples of cleaning products that contain acid or alkali include but are not limited to:

- Oven cleaners
- Rust removers
- Lime scale removers
- Drain Cleaners

Disinfectants and cleaners such as bleach can be used on Formica laminates. It is recommended to follow disinfecting with a warm water wash using a soft cloth and then dry the surface.