



Solid Surfacing

TECHNICAL DATA

RECOMMENDED APPLICATION

Formica® Solid Surfacing is a solid homogeneous material suitable for many functional and decorative applications. It is a fully densified composite of modified resin and mineral filler. The product is available in the following forms:

- Sheet stock in 1/4" (6.4mm) and 1/2" (12.7mm).
- Kitchen sinks, single and double bowl designs
- Vanity bowls
- Edge strips and windowsills

Formica® Solid Surfacing is ideally suited for domestic use in the kitchen and bathroom. It is also widely specified for a full range of uses in offices, banks, restaurants, hospitals and other commercial applications.

FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY

Refer to the *Formica® Solid Surfacing Fabrication Guide* for full information on working with Formica® Solid Surfacing. Follow accepted standard practices and safety procedures.

Limitations

Formica® Solid Surfacing is not recommended for certain applications, which include: exposure to heat sources that may elevate material temperature above 175°F (79°C), including hot pads for cookware, as excessive heat may cause stress fractures; below-grade wall surfacing, if moisture can affect the adhesive bond; exterior use, due to the possibility of some color change caused by exposure to direct sunlight. The 1/4" (6.4mm) thick material should not be used for countertops or other horizontal applications. Exposure to certain strong chemicals may be harmful; refer to the *Use and Care* section for specific recommendations. Do not allow dry ice to come in contact with Formica Solid Surfacing sheets or sinks.

Storage

Formica® Solid Surfacing sheets should be stored horizontally on the shipping skids. If the skids are stacked, limit the stack to three (3) skids high and only stack skids of the same size. Store the skids Formica Solid Surface on a flat horizontal surface or support with at least three (3) cantilever rack arms. If sheets are stored individually, they should be stored flat horizontally and well supported to prevent sagging and warping. Do not put long sheets on top of shorter sheets. Formica Solid surface should not be stored vertically; this can cause warping within the sheet.

- Formica® Solid Surfacing kitchen sinks and vanity bowls may be stacked up to six (6) boxes high of the same size.

Preconditioning

Formica® Solid Surfacing sheets, sinks, bowls and adhesives should be 65°F (18°C) or warmer prior to fabrication.

Substrates and Supports

Formica® Solid Surfacing sheets for horizontal surfaces such as countertops should be supported every 18" (457mm) for 1/2" (12.7mm) thickness. Do not use 1/4" (6.4mm) thick sheets for horizontal applications.

- Do not use a full wood underlayment as a support for horizontal sheets.
- Restrict unsupported overhang to 6" (152.4mm) for 1/2" (12.7mm) thick Formica® Solid Surfacing sheets.
- Do not use particle board.

Adhesives

For seams and drop edges, use Formica® Solid Surfacing Seaming Cartridge.

Wood and wood veneer inserts (as in some drop-edge designs) can be bonded to Formica® Solid Surfacing with clear epoxy adhesive or clear silicone sealant.

When attaching Formica® Solid Surfacing countertops to cabinets, use dime-size dabs of a clear silicone sealant every 12-18" (304.8-457.2mm), then lower the unit into place.

When installing vertical panels for shower and bath surrounds, use a clear silicon adhesive. Apply a 3/16-1/4" bead around the perimeter and at 6-8" intervals in the middle.

When installing backsplash sections, use a clear silicone adhesive. If the backsplash is less than 8" (203.2mm) high, it may be bonded to the countertop using Formica® Solid Surfacing Seaming Adhesive.

Assembly

When countertops are placed between walls, allow 1/8" (3.2mm) space per 10' (3.05m) length for dimensional movement.

All inside corners of cutouts must be radiused as large as possible, to a minimum of 1/4" (6.4mm), and reinforced with Formica® Solid Surfacing corner blocks to avoid stress cracking. The edges and corners should be sanded smooth and free of chips or nicks. Two layers of heat-conductive aluminum tape must be used for drop-in stoves and around heat sources to protect from thermal stress. See the latest *Formica® Solid Surfacing Fabrication Guide* (Form No. 10-003) for details.

Polishing

Consult the *Formica® Solid Surfacing Technical Brief — Polishing* (Form No. 10-042) or *Formica® Solid Surfacing Fabrication Guide* (Form No. 10-003) for detailed information.

PRODUCT AVAILABILITY

Sheet Stock is generally available in two thicknesses, in the following nominal sizes*:

Thickness	Width	Length
1/4" (6.4mm)	30" (76.2cm)	98" (248.9cm)
1/2" (12.7mm)	30" (76.2cm)	145" (368.3cm)
	36" (91.4cm)	145" (368.3cm)

*Check with Formica® Solid Surfacing National Product Guide for current product availability.

All **Kitchen Sinks** are available in Arctic and Frost. Model K200, K420 and K175 are available in all solid colors.

- K200
OD 33-1/2" x 18-5/8"
ID 15-3/4" x 16-5/8" x 9" deep (each bowl)
Double bowl, two equal sized bowls
- K175
OD 33-1/2" x 20-1/2"
ID 18-15/16" x 18-1/2" x 9" deep
ID 12-9/16" x 15" x 7-3/16" deep
Double bowl, one large and one small bowl
- K100
OD 24" x 19"
ID 21" x 16" x 9" deep
Single bowl
- K075
OD 19-3/8" x 16-3/8"
ID 17-3/4" x 14-3/4" x 9" deep
Single bowl
- K050
OD 14-3/8" x 14-3/8"
ID 12-3/4" x 12-3/4" x 6-5/8" deep
Single bowl
- KB025
OD 8" x 14-3/8"
ID 6-3/8" x 12-3/4" x 5-3/8" deep
Single bowl
- K420
OD 32-1/4" x 21-3/8"
ID 13-3/4" x 15-1/4" x 9" deep
Double bowl

Vanity Bowls - Check for color availability.

- V100
OD 19-7/8" x 16-1/8"
ID 18-1/4" x 14-1/2" x 6-1/4" deep
Rear overflow*
- V075
OD 18-1/8" x 14-3/4"
ID 16-1/2" x 13-1/4" x 5-5/8" deep
Rear overflow*
- V065
OD 18" x 14"
ID 16" x 12" x 5" deep
Front overflow
- V050
OD 16-1/2" x 12"
ID 15" x 10-3/8" x 5-1/2" deep
Rear overflow*

*Bowls can be installed to meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) specifications. Please see www.access-board.gov for current ADA guidelines and information.

HOW TO SPECIFY

Solid surfacing material shall be Formica® Solid Surfacing provided by Formica Corporation, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Sheet Stock			
Thickness	Width	Length	Color
Kitchen Sink			
Model No.	Color		
Vanity Bowl			
Model No.	Color		
Edge Strips/Windowsills			
Thickness	Width	Length	Color

Compositions which typically DO NOT stain Formica® Solid Surfacing sheets and sinks:

Ag Gentian Violet (1% solution)	Isopropyl Alcohol (50% solution)
Ammonia (10%)	Lye Solution (2%)
Ammonium Hydroxide (28% solution)	Merthiolate (1% solution)
Amyl Acetate	Methyl Ethyl Ketone
Amyl Alcohol	Milk
Beet Juice	Mineral Oil
Betadine®	Mixture of Naphtha and Ethyl Alcohol (50:50)
Black Non-Permanent Felt Pen Ink	Mustard
Black Paste Shoe Polish	Perchloric Acid (60% solution)
Black Wax Crayon	Phenol (5%)
Blood	Red Food Dye
Blue Ball Point Pen Ink	Red Lipstick
Calcium Hypochlorite	Soap (5% solution)
Chromic Acid (60% solution)	Sodium Hypochlorite
Citric Acid (10% solution)	Tea
Coffee	Tincture of Mercurochrome®
Cresol	Toluene
Detergent (5% solution)	Tomato Catsup
Dioxane	Trichlorethylene
Ethyl Alcohol (50% solution)	Trisodium Phosphate (1% solution)
Ethyl Acetate	Urea (6.6% solution)
Gasoline	Urine
Glacial Acetic Acid	Vegetable Cooking Oil
Grape Juice	Vinegar
Hair Dye	Washable Blue Ink
Hydrogen Peroxide (3% solution)	Water
Iodine (1% solution)	

Following is the list of typical medical and dental stains used in testing:

Ammonia	Rhodamine B
Betadine Tincture of	Isothiocyanate
Dimethyl Methylene Blue	Safranin O
Eucalyptol	Silver Nitrate
Eugenol	Tincture of Mercurochrome
Gentian Violet	Trypan Blue
Iodine	Wright Stain
Gentian Violet	Zinc Oxide Ointment
Lysol® Brand Disinfectant	

Compositions which COULD stain Formica® Solid Surfacing sheets and sinks:

Dichromate Cleaning Solution	Phosphoric Acid (85%)
Formic Acid (90%)	Potassium Permanganate (2%)
Furfural	Silver Nitrate (10%)
Hydrochloric Acid (37% solution)	Sodium Hydroxide (40%)
Hydrofluoric Acid (48%)	Sodium Sulfide (15%)
Nitric Acid (70% solution)	Sulfuric Acid (77% solution)
Phenolphthalein (1%)	

*Stains can normally be removed by following the Formica Solid Surfacing Use and Care Instructions.

USE AND CARE

Formica® Solid Surfacing is not only one of the most beautiful surfacing materials available today, but also one of the most durable. A product of sophisticated modern technology, Formica® Solid Surfacing is resistant to stains, bacteria, and impact. It is nonporous, with the same color and pattern running throughout its thickness. This combination of features provides a deep, rich appearance that's easy to care for, so its beauty can be preserved for years to come.

Do not use over-the-counter cleaners that contain strong acids (e.g. cleaners for tile, grout, ceramic stove tops, toilet bowls, etc.). We recommend using either Countertop Magic or Plexus as polishes you can put on your Solid Surface countertop to enhance the shine. We do not recommend using Hope's polish.

Normal Cleaning – Light Colors with a Matte or Satin Finish:

Formica® Solid Surfacing is nonporous and can be easily wiped clean with a damp cloth or sponge and mild detergents or general purpose cleaner such as Mr. Clean® or Lestoil®. If you have a Matte finish, abrasive cleansers like Ajax®, Bon Ami® or Comet® may also be used. Periodically, it may also be helpful to go over the entire surface with an abrasive cleanser or a wet 7447 Scotch-Brite® pad (if Matte finish) or a wet 7448 Scotch-Brite® pad (if Satin finish) to maintain a uniform appearance. Rinse with water and towel dry.

Normal Cleaning – Dark Colors with a Semi-Gloss or Gloss Finish:

Dark colors usually have a higher gloss than a Matte finish. Maintenance is generally limited to wiping with a mild detergent on a damp cloth and wiping dry.

Some Simple Precautions:

Do not place hot pans directly from the burner or oven on the countertop surface. Even though Formica® Solid Surfacing can withstand up to 175° F, prolonged or extreme heat could cause damage to the surface. A trivet should always be used under all heated appliances, such as crock pots, electric fry pans, coffee pots, etc. Extreme temperature swings should be avoided. When pouring hot water (from boiling pasta, potatoes, etc.) into sink, always run warm water to reduce temperature extremes.

Do not use your countertop as a cutting board. Although minor cuts and scratches on a matte finish can be repaired by the consumer, deep cuts and high gloss finished tops will require the service of a professional, which is an extra expense. (An extra piece of Formica® Solid Surfacing from your fabricator makes an excellent cutting board to protect your counter.)

Do not stand or sit on your countertop.

No dry ice. Do not allow dry ice to come in contact with Formica Solid Surfacing sheets or sinks.

Spills and Stains:

While most everyday spills can be removed with the cleaning techniques listed, some troublesome spills and stains such as food dye, tea and fruit drinks may require more aggressive cleaning. These items can be removed using full-strength bleach for two to five minutes, followed by a general cleaner and flushing with water. On Matte finish, if you prefer you can scrub with an abrasive cleanser.

Strong acids such as those found in drain, toilet bowl and oven cleaners should be used cautiously around Formica® Solid Surfacing. If these items are accidentally spilled, wipe them up at once and rinse with water. Some of these items, if left on the surface, may cause whitening, which can be difficult to remove.

Should a burning cigarette accidentally come in contact with the surface, it could leave a nicotine stain or a scorch mark. Either of these can be removed by cleaning with an abrasive cleanser or buffing with a Scotch-Brite® pad.

Removing Scratches:

Dark Colors: Specialized tooling is required to achieve a high-gloss finish. Please contact your professional fabricator. Maintenance is limited to cleaning with mild detergents or nonabrasive countertop cleaners and a soft cloth.
Should the above maintenance steps create a variation in the surface finish, proceed with the final blending step over the entire countertop surface.

Matte Finish: Sand with 220-grit sandpaper on sanding block. Use small circular motions until scratch is gone. Blend finish with an abrasive cleanser and a maroon 7447 Scotch-Brite® Pad.

Satin Finish: Sand with 320-grit sandpaper on sanding block. Use small circular motions until the scratch is gone. Blend finish with Soft Scrub® Cleanser (or equivalent) and a gray 7448 Scotch-Brite® pad.

Semi-Gloss Finish: Sand with 600-grit sandpaper on sanding block. Use small circular motions until the scratch is gone. Blend finish with a nonabrasive cleanser and a white 7445 Scotch-Brite® pad.

Polished Finish: Specialized tooling is required to achieve a high-gloss finish. Please contact your professional fabricator. Maintenance is limited to cleaning with mild detergents or nonabrasive countertop cleaners and a soft cloth.
Should the above maintenance steps create a variation in the surface finish, proceed with the final blending step over the entire countertop surface.

Mr. Clean, Lestoil, Ajax, Comet, Scotch-Brite, Bon Ami, Countertop Magic, Plexus and Soft Scrub are all trademarks of their respective owners.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Formica® Solid Surfacing - 10 Year Limited Warranty. Formica Corporation warrants to the original end-use purchaser that Formica Corporation will, at its option, repair or replace without charge, or refund the cost of Formica® Solid Surfacing, if the product fails solely due to a manufacturing defect within ten (10) years of the date of initial installation, subject to the exclusions set forth below. Repair or replacement during this 10-year period shall include reasonable labor charges needed to repair or replace the defective product, but shall not include the costs associated with removal, repair or replacement of fixtures, hardware or decorative treatments (such as floor, wall or ceiling treatments). During the entire 10-year warranty period, Formica Corporation's obligation as to repair or replacement shall further be limited to replacement or repair with colors and styles of products that are available at the time of replacement or repair.

You may obtain coverage under this warranty by providing to Formica Corporation proof from the installer of the date of initial installation when you seek service. For service under this warranty, you must notify the dealer from whom you purchased the product or Formica Corporation in writing at the address below, providing your name and address, a description of the product involved and the nature of the defect.

This warranty is transferable within the 10-year period only when the new owner submits to Formica Corporation (see address below) proof of the original date of installation. Transfer of the warranty entitles the new owner to coverage for the remainder of the 10-year warranty period.

Formica® Solid Surfacing products must be stored, handled, installed, used and maintained in accordance with instructions provided by Formica Corporation. Copies of the Fabrication Guide and the Use & Care Guide for Formica® Solid Surfacing are available from your dealer or from Formica Corporation at the address listed below. You may also obtain these items by contacting Formica Corporation at 1-800-FORMICA or via Formica Corporation's website at www.FORMICA.com.

This warranty does not cover:

1. Conditions such as stains, scratches, water spots and burns.
2. Failure or dissatisfaction with joints or seams or of any adhesive, caulk or other accessory items.
3. Failure due to non-compliance with Formica Corporation's Fabrication Guide or Use & Care Guide for Formica® Solid Surfacing. Such failures include, but are not limited to, failures due to exposure to physical abuse (e.g., standing on countertops, impact by kitchen utensils), chemical abuse (e.g., harsh cleansers and solvents), thermal abuse (e.g., excessive heat from appliances) or misuse. Failures caused by fabrication techniques that do not conform to the approved techniques in the Fabrication Guide are the sole responsibility of the original fabricator/installer.
4. Use for purposes other than normal interior use.

5. Any products moved from their original place of installation and/or solid surfacing items not permanently attached to a substrate in a stationary position (e.g., table leaves, trivets, hinged covers).
6. Failures caused by settling of cabinets or substructure support, or failures caused by acts of nature.
7. Products installed with a known or visible manufacturing defect at the time of or prior to installation.
8. Color variations due to production run differences.

DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES

THE WARRANTIES SET FORTH HEREIN OR IN FORMICA CORPORATION'S WARRANTY DOCUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO A PRODUCT ARE THE ONLY WARRANTIES MADE BY FORMICA CORPORATION IN CONNECTION WITH THESE PRODUCTS, AND ARE EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. PRODUCTS SOLD BY FORMICA CORPORATION ARE SOLD ONLY TO THE SPECIFICATIONS SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH BY FORMICA CORPORATION IN WRITING. FORMICA CORPORATION'S SOLE OBLIGATION FOR A REMEDY TO BUYER SHALL BE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF NON-CONFORMING PRODUCTS AS DESCRIBED HEREIN, OR AT THE OPTION OF FORMICA CORPORATION, RETURN OF THE PRODUCT AND REFUND OF THE PURCHASE PRICE. BUYER ASSUMES ALL RISK WHATSOEVER AS TO THE RESULT OF THE USE OF THE PRODUCTS PURCHASED, WHETHER USED SINGLY OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

No claim by buyer of any kind, including claims for indemnification, whether as to quality or amount of products delivered or for non-delivery of products, shall be greater in amount than the purchase price of the products in respect of which damages are claimed. IN NO EVENT SHALL FORMICA CORPORATION BE LIABLE TO BUYER FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, RELIANCE, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR COVER, OR LOSS OF PROFIT, REVENUE OR USE, IN CONNECTION WITH, ARISING OUT OF, OR AS A RESULT OF, THE SALE, DELIVERY, SERVICING, USE OR LOSS OF USE OF THE PRODUCTS, SOLD HEREUNDER, OR FOR ANY LIABILITY OF BUYER TO ANY THIRD PARTY WITH RESPECT THERETO. BUYER SHALL INSPECT FOR NONCONFORMITY PROMPTLY UPON RECEIPT. Failure by buyer to give Formica Corporation written notice of claim within 30 days from date of delivery or, in the case of non-delivery from the date fixed for delivery, shall constitute a waiver by buyer of all claims in respect of such products.

LIMITED WARRANTY (CONTINUED)

THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS. YOU MAY ALSO HAVE OTHER RIGHTS, WHICH WILL VARY FROM STATE TO STATE OR, IN CANADA, FROM PROVINCE TO PROVINCE. FEDERAL LAW DOES NOT PERMIT THE DISCLAIMER OR MODIFICATION OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARISING UNDER APPLICABLE STATE LAW FOR CONSUMER PRODUCTS. HOWEVER, ANY OF SUCH IMPLIED WARRANTIES SHALL EXPIRE AT THE EARLIER OF THE EXPIRATION OF THE STATED WARRANTY OR THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD FOR THE IMPLIED WARRANTY REQUIRED UNDER STATE LAW. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS OR THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

Any information or suggestions concerning applications, specifications or compliance with codes and standards is provided solely for your convenient reference and without any representation as to accuracy or suitability. The user must verify and test the suitability of any information or products for his or her particular purpose or specific application.

Any question about this warranty should be addressed to:

Formica Corporation
10155 Reading Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241-4805
Attn: Formica® Solid Surfacing Warranty Department
Phone: 1-800-FORMICA™
www.FORMICA.com

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Solid Surfacing



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Manufacture of Formica Solid Surfacing is covered by one or both U.S. Patent Numbers 4,473,673 and 4,652,596 and by corresponding patents in other countries.