

# FORMICA® LAMINATE BY FORMICA GROUP



## CHALKABLE™ LAMINATE TECHNICAL DATA

### GENERAL PURPOSE GRADE T-9

#### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Melamine-impregnated decorative surface papers are combined with phenolic-treated kraft paper and consolidated in a press at high pressures. The sheet back is sanded to maintain a uniform thickness and facilitate bonding. Formica ChalkAble™ Laminate works well with both plain chalk and bold chalk pens.

#### COLORS AND FINISH

ChalkAble™ laminate sheets (horizontal general purpose) HGS grade T9 are available in black and two sizes 4'x8' and 4'x10' in chalkboard finish. Product information can be detailed in the Formica Group - National Product Guide (Form No. 02-034W) found on Formica.com.

#### RECOMMENDED APPLICATION

ChalkAble™ Laminate is intended for application to interior horizontal or vertical surfaces for easy erasure of standard writing chalk. This product is not postformable but fabricates like standard laminate.

Ideal for children's rooms and schools or any application using desks, tables, doors and walls.

#### FABRICATION AND ASSEMBLY

##### LIMITATIONS

Formica® Brand Laminate is designed for interior use only.

Do not adhere directly to plaster, drywall (gypsum board), or concrete. Do not use in areas exposed to temperatures exceeding 275°F (135°C) or for exterior applications.

##### MACHINING LOW SHEEN LAMINATE SHEETS

Formica® Laminate with low sheen surfaces are subject to marring. Fabricating with peel coat on surface (if applicable) is recommended. Router base should be clean and free of burrs and debris.

Table saws should be clean, flat, and free of burrs.

The arrows show the running direction of the sheet. This is for avoiding color variations if sheets are installed next to each other.

If the running direction has been followed there is no color variation.

##### STORAGE

Formica® Brand Laminate should be stored horizontally, with a caul board or other protective sheet placed on top to protect the material from possible damage. The material should be protected from moisture, and should never be stored in contact with the floor or an outside wall. Optimum conditions for storage are approximately 75°F (24°C), and 45% to 55% relative humidity.

##### PRECONDITIONING

Prior to fabrication, allow laminate sheet and substrate to acclimate for at least 48 hours at the same ambient conditions. Optimum conditions are approximately 75°F (24°C), and relative humidity of 45% to 55%. Provisions should be made for the circulation of air around the materials.

#### SUBSTRATES

ChalkAble™ laminate sheet should be bonded to an appropriate substrate, such as #45 density particleboard (ANSI A208.1 - 1999), or Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF).

#### ADHESIVES

Contact, semi-rigid (PVAc), or rigid (urea, resorcinol) adhesives may be used. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations. Certain combinations of finish, substrate, and adhesive can cause telegraphing.

#### ASSEMBLY

Material, equipment, and workmanship should conform to the Formica Group recommended standard practices, conditions, procedures, and recommendations as specified by ANSI/ NEMA LD3-2005, Architectural Woodwork Quality Standards and ANSI 161.2-1998 Standards. ChalkAble™ laminate sheets can be sawed, drilled, routed, and fabricated using standard carbide tipped cutting tools. Holes for screws or bolts should be drilled oversized.

Panel assemblies should be laminated with the appropriate backing sheet to minimize warpage. Formica® Brand backing sheets (grade C2/BKH) are recommended for less critical applications. Optimum balancing is obtained by bonding the same surface laminate on both sides of the assembly with the same adhesive. Always align sanding marks in the same direction.

All inside corners of cutouts must be radiused as large as possible, 1/8" (3.18mm) minimum, to avoid stress cracking. The edges and corners should be routed, sanded, or filed smooth and free of chips or nicks. Panels fabricated using metal substrates, which are more dimensionally stable than wood-based materials, should be installed in a framing system, which captures the perimeter of the panel yet allows for the normal dimensional movement of the laminate. This is to protect the panel edge and prevent edge lifting or separation from the substrate that can occur under dry conditions.

#### TECHINICAL DATA

Performance compliance of Formica® Brand Laminate General purpose grade T9 (HGS).

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES	LD3 TEST	LD3-2005
Appearance	3.1	No ABC Defects
Light Resistance	3.3	Slight Effect
Cleanability	3.4	20 (max)
Stain Resistance Reagents 1-10 Reagents 11-15	3.4	No Effect Moderate
Boiling Water Resistance	3.5	No Effect
High Temperature Resistance	3.6	Slight
Radiant Heat Resistance (sec)	3.10	125 (min)
Dimensional Change Machine Direction Cross Direction	3.11	0.50 (max) 0.90 (max)

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### CODES AND SPECIFICATIONS

#### FORMICA® BRAND LAMINATE

(GENERAL PURPOSE — GRADE T9/ HGS )

Greenguard Gold approved

Thickness: 0.035in (0.90 mm)

Weight: 0.252 lbs/ft<sup>2</sup>

ASTM E 84 Flame: 230

Smoke 70: Not classified

### SIZES

SHEET WIDTHS: 48" (1219MM)

SHEET LENGTHS: 120" (3048MM)

To order Formica® Brand Laminate samples, please call  
US/Canada: 1-800-FORMICA™ (select option 1)

### HOW TO SPECIFY

Surface (and appropriate backing sheet) shall be Formica® Brand Laminate by Formica Group, Cincinnati, Ohio.

COLOR NUMBER

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COLOR NAME

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GRADE

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FINISH

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SIZE

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### USE AND CARE

Formica® Brand Chalk board surface is used to write on with dry chalk or liquid chalk pens. Dry chalk can be removed with micro fiber cloth or board eraser with minor ghosting. If required the cleaning can be done with water and a sponge as it is common practice for school black boards. Liquid chalk pens cannot be removed dry but is easily removed with wet sponge or wet cloth. The surfaces are protected with a removable film. It is recommended to clean the surface after having removed the protective film or before using the board for the first time in order to remove possible residues of the film. For this thorough cleaning a conventional spirit (ethyl alcohol) can be used. Never use detergents such as washing-up liquids to clean the surface because they usually contain fatty substances for the skin. A greasy film can remain on the surface making it extremely difficult to clean the surface. Recommended daily cleaning of chalk and chalk pens markings with dry soft cloths, board erasers or plain water.

For more stubborn or longer sitting marks rubbing alcohol or plain acetone is recommended.

Cleaners, compounds, etc. that are bleach, acid, or alkaline-based will mar, etch, corrode and permanently discolor the decorative surface of laminate. Never use these materials on laminate, nor allow bottles, rags, etc., contaminated with them to contact the surface. Accidental spills or splatters from these harsh materials should be wiped off immediately, and the area cleaned thoroughly with a damp cloth.

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#### LIMITED WARRANTY

Formica Corporation expressly warrants that, for a period of one (1) year from the date of first sale, these products will be reasonably free of defects in materials and workmanship, and that when properly handled and fabricated, will conform, within accepted tolerance, to applicable manufacturing specifications. Colors subject to dye lot variations. This limited warranty only applies to Formica® Brand Laminate which is stored, handled, fabricated and installed in the manner recommended by Formica Corporation. Due to the variety of uses and applications to which Formica® Brand Laminate may be put, FORMICA CORPORATION CAN MAKE NO WARRANTY THAT THIS PRODUCT IS SUITABLE FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND CAN MAKE NO OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OTHER THAN THOSE SET FORTH ABOVE.

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#### MANUFACTURER

Formica® Brand Laminate sheets are manufactured by Formica Corporation.

#### TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical assistance may be obtained through your local Formica® Brand Products Distributor or from Formica Corporation trained representatives in sales offices throughout the country. To assist these representatives, Formica Corporation maintains a sales and technical services staff in Cincinnati, Ohio. For technical assistance, contact your distributor or sales representative; write the company directly at Formica Corporation Technical Services Department, 10155 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH, 45241; call (513) 786-3578 or 1-800-FORMICA™; or fax (513) 786-3195. In Canada, call 1-800-363-1405. In Mexico, call (525) 530-3135.

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