



# DIMENSIONS™

## Frequently Asked Questions – Project Panels

### Is your plywood insect (termite) resistant?

Great question! Dimensions project panels are not insect resistant. However, for indoor use, most wood products aren't likely to become infested with insect or termites. Avoid the risk by using common household insect control measures. For example, a pet Leopard Gecko.

### What is MDF?

MDF (Medium Density Fiberboard) is an engineered wood product made from a mixture of hardwood and softwood fibers glued together with strong resin. These ingredients are then pressed into a sheet at whatever thickness is desired. The benefits of MDF are its smooth surface, density and durability, making it excellent for a wide range of DIY projects from décor and crafts to cabinetry and repairs.

### What is Particleboard?

Particleboard is another engineered wood product, but this one is made from a combination of wood chips, sawmill shavings and sawdust glued together by resin or other types of binders. These components are also pressed together, but then extruded as a sheet – just like the Play-Doh Fun Factory. Particleboard is an inexpensive material great for lots of uses. These include home décor, furniture, cabinets, flooring, roofing, insulation and sound deadening. In certain applications, particleboard can look great on its own, but when paired with veneers, it offers a high-end look at an affordable price.

### What is OSB?

Oriented Strand Board is produced by laying strands of wood soaked in resin into a sheet which is then extruded and cut to size – sort of like a wooden granola bar. The specific orientation of how the strands are laid produces a strength similar to plywood. OSB is most commonly used in new construction for walls, roof sheathing and subflooring applications.

### What is a veneer core?

A veneer core is constructed by stacking layers (plies) of one or more veneers that have been peeled from abundantly available tree species. The veneer plies are laid in alternating cross bands for stability and strength, similar to how fabric is knitted into a shirt. Any decorative thin face of a wood species can then be applied to the front and back of the panel. Compared to MDF and particleboard cores, veneer core offers strength, weight and screw-holding advantages.

### Are all panels the same color?

No, each panel is made from a species of tree with its own characteristics and grain. Every tree is slightly different however color of species is relatively consistent but not uniform. We suggest if possible, that you hand select your pieces to ensure color consistency for greater overall satisfaction.

### What is sande plywood?

Often confused as a spelling error of the word "sanded," sande plywood comes from the Sande (*Brosimum utile*) tree, native to tropical regions in the Americas.

### Are project panels waterproof?

Any plywood that isn't treated or marine grade is going to be inadequate for long-term use outdoors. That being said, birch, sande, underlayment, OSB and BCX are commonly used in covered or moderately protected outside applications. We advise you to avoid using MDF, pegboard, chalkboard, markerboard and hardboard outdoors, however, as they all absorb moisture quickly, expand and ruin your weekend.

### Are your finishes VOC-free?

Dimensions Project Panels are VOC- and heavy metal-free. Use wood products that are as good for your health as they are enjoyable to work with and use.

### What does LEED certified mean?

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a green building certification program that ensures producers of raw materials such as wood, stone and others are environmentally responsible. LEED certifications are given to producers of materials who meet standards put in place to ensure a limited environmental impact.

### What does CARB2 compliant mean?

CARB2 (California Air Resources Board) is a certification process established by the California Air Resources Board to reduce formaldehyde emissions and protect people from airborne contaminants. Being CARB2 certified means our products are well within the safety limits.