

SHINNOKI®

Prefinished real wood veneer

HANDLING & CARE

Storage and handling

Care should be taken to avoid scratches and cracking of the surface. Two people should carry sheets of Shinnoki laminate and MDF. Shinnoki laminate cannot withstand shock or impact, especially when rolled and fabricators are cautioned to exercise care in handling Shinnoki laminate because the cell structure of the wood can make it brittle. However, after the laminate is bonded to a substrate, it can be handled like ordinary finished wood veneered panels. Note that Shinnoki may have a plastic film which should be left on until after machining (in order to minimise scratching and damage). When pressing laminate onto substrate, care should be taken to avoid rolling up or bunching the plastic film.

Best storage temperature and humidity is 18°C to 24°C and 50% to 60% respectively. Avoid using or storing in prolonged temperatures above 40 degrees C. Shinnoki should not be stored exposed to bright light, excessive heat or dryness, high-humidity, chemicals, water and other liquids. It should be stored indoors, horizontal, flat and evenly supported (maximum distance between bearers of 600mm) in a dry place out of sunlight and wind. Bearers should be lined up and it should not be stored in contact with the floor or exterior walls. If it hasn't got any plastic film, the laminate should be stored face-to-face/back-to-back. The top sheet of laminate or laminate on substrate should be turned face down and a cover sheet placed on top.

The surface of Shinnoki should be kept free of water, dirt, sand, adhesives and oil. It is especially important that chips of wood or other material do not get between sheets in packs, as this will permanently indent the surface. Because it is made of components that include wood, changes in humidity may cause Shinnoki to expand (increased humidity) or contract (decreased humidity). Shinnoki laminate is more sensitive to warping than ordinary melamine laminates.

Transport

When transporting Shinnoki, care must be taken to keep it dry, protected from air/wind and clean from road dirt and dust. The bearers of crates on trucks should be lined up, as best possible. Shinnoki laminate can be rolled to a 230 mm radius along the grain and transported or stored in a sturdy cardboard cylinder for short periods of time, but not for any period beyond a week or so. Care must be taken when unrolling laminate because it is under pressure, and may spring open and injure someone, or may split.

Care

Shinnoki may change colour over time, especially with exposure to direct or indirect natural and artificial light and UV, just as timber and dyed products may change colour on such exposure. Use in areas exposed to prolonged direct sunlight will accelerate colour change and should be avoided. To minimise colour change, put UV-films and blinds/curtains on all windows, especially north facing and/or large windows.

Shinnoki should be cleaned with a soft dry cloth or a damp cloth and mild detergent only. Do not clean using abrasive pads such as steel wool, plastic scourers or sand-paper. Furniture wipes, orange-oil based cleaners and polishes, abrasive or chemical cleaners, solvents, alcohol, bleach, acid or alkali cleaning fluids should not be used. If such products are spilt on the surface, they should be cleaned off immediately. Wipe up all water and other spills off the surface as these may stain. It is especially important to immediately wipe off spills or marks of coloured materials, such as lipstick, dark juices, red wine etc.

Do not slide hard materials such as crockery across Shinnoki, nor drop objects onto it, nor use sharp blades or knives to cut directly onto Shinnoki – these will scratch, dent or chip the surface. Do not place hot dishes from the oven or stove on Shinnoki surfaces, this can cause discolouration and/or delamination. Wire- brushed Shinnoki may be hard to clean.

Repairing scratches

Use a non-silicone based furniture polish to reduce the appearance of scratches. Scratches may be also be disguised using repair pens available from Briggs Veneers, or a fine crayon or felt tipped pen of the same colour as the laminate, with a light application of non-silicon furniture polish on top. Deep scratches cannot be easily repaired (Shinnoki is not suitable for use in applications where deep scratches are likely to occur.)

As it is not possible to cover all associated manufacturing materials, conditions and cleaning products/methods, the end-user is responsible for carrying out the necessary tests and trials to check that the laminate, fabrication methods, associated materials and cleaning products/methods are suitable.