

SURFACES AND MORE

TABU Raw Pre-Dyed Veneer

Care and Maintenance Guide

For unfinished veneer leaves, layons and uncoated veneered panels supplied for interior applications. This guide is intended for Australian projects.

Important: TABU raw pre-dyed veneer is not a finished surface. It must be protected before coating and must not be placed into service until it has been suitably fabricated, sealed and coated. After coating, day-to-day care must follow the coating supplier's and finished product manufacturer's instructions.

1. Scope of this care guide

This document provides care and maintenance guidance for TABU raw pre-dyed timber veneer supplied by Surfaces and More Pty Ltd as unfinished veneer leaves, layons or uncoated veneered panels.

It focuses on care of the material before coating and general maintenance principles for coated veneered surfaces after installation. It is not a sales terms document, delivery document, formal handling guide, fabrication manual, coating specification or project warranty.

It does not apply to finished furniture, finished coated panels, laminates, flooring systems, benchtop systems, exterior cladding or any other product range unless Surfaces and More confirms this in writing for the specific project.

2. Natural product characteristics and colour variation

TABU raw pre-dyed veneer is manufactured from real natural timber. Natural timber may react to environmental moisture, heat, air movement, UV light, artificial light and other site or storage conditions. As a result, colour, tone, grain, figure, dye absorption, consistency and appearance may vary.

Pre-dyed veneer may absorb colour in different ways and shades. Supplied material may not exactly match samples, photographs, website images, previous projects or approved sample references. This does not necessarily indicate a defect and may be a natural characteristic of timber and the dyeing process.

Where material is supplied from different logs, batches, dye lots or production lots, colour and appearance variation may occur. Fabrication, selection, matching and finishing processes may reduce visible variation, but cannot necessarily eliminate it.

Natural and manufacturing characteristics may include grain variation, figure, pin knots, gum, differing leaf widths, mild indentations, knife marks, join lines, off-centre crowns and differences between leaves, samples, images, logs, dye lots and production batches.

3. Care of raw veneer before coating

Raw pre-dyed veneer is highly vulnerable before sealing and coating. Until the finished system is complete, keep the material clean, dry, covered and protected from unsuitable environmental conditions.

- Keep raw veneer and uncoated veneered panels away from direct sunlight, very bright light, reflected bright light and excessive heat.
- Avoid water, condensation, steam, high humidity, chemicals, alcohol, solvents, staining liquids and cleaning products on the raw veneer surface.
- Avoid even temporary contact with moisture. Water or other liquids can stain, swell, mark, discolour or otherwise damage raw veneer and may affect the final coating outcome.
- Keep the surface free from dust, grease, adhesive contamination, hand oils, pencil marks, tape residue, silicone and other contaminants that may affect coating or appearance.
- Do not leave raw veneer exposed to air, light, heat or draughts longer than necessary. Raw wood exposed to air may oxidise and discolour.

- Before cutting, pressing, sanding, coating, installing or otherwise processing the veneer, check that the material is suitable for the intended project, including colour, batch compatibility, grain, figure and appearance. Do not proceed if there is any concern; contact Surfaces and More in writing first.

4. Coating and finished surface responsibility

Surfaces and More supplies the veneer in raw, unfinished form and does not control the final adhesive, substrate, sanding, sealer, coating, polishing or installation system. The final care requirements and surface performance will depend on the complete finished system.

The coating supplier, fabricator and/or finished product manufacturer should provide written care and maintenance instructions for the finished coated surface. Those instructions should be followed where they are more specific than this general guide.

Coat panels promptly after sanding and seal exposed or cut edges as part of the finished system. Incorrect sealer or coating selection may cause colour change, bleeding, discolouration, poor adhesion, whitening or finish failure.

Common coating systems for dyed timber veneer may include high-quality non-yellowing systems suitable for interior timber veneer. Suitability must be confirmed by the coating supplier and fabricator for the specific veneer, substrate, application and site conditions. UV inhibitors may reduce colour change, but they will not necessarily prevent fading, bleaching, darkening or discolouration.

5. General care after installation

Finished TABU veneered surfaces should generally be kept clean, dry, out of bright light and in a controlled interior environment. Cleaning must be appropriate for the actual surface coating.

Dusting

Use only a soft dry cloth or feather duster. Do not use abrasive cloths, scouring pads or abrasive cleaning tools.

Spills and moisture

Wipe spills as soon as possible using a clean cloth lightly dampened with water, then dry the surface immediately. Do not leave water, alcohol, chemicals, staining liquids, food acids, dark juices, wine, oils or cleaning products on veneered surfaces.

High humidity, steam, condensation or excessive water may damage the coating and, if moisture penetrates the coating or edges, may cause staining, whitening, swelling, checking, cracking or discolouration of the veneer surface.

Dirty or greasy marks

First wipe with a soft dry cloth. If further cleaning is required, use only products approved by the coating supplier for the specific finish. Always test on a hidden or less conspicuous area first.

Polishing

Use only furniture polish approved by the coating supplier for the specific finish. Avoid silicone-based polishes, abrasive polishes and products that may create recoating or refurbishment problems.

Products to avoid

- Furniture wipes unless expressly approved by the coating supplier.
- Harsh cleaners, bleach, ammonia, acetone, trichloroethylene, solvents, alcohol-based cleaners and orange-oil products.
- Silicone-based products, abrasive cleaners, abrasive polishes, scouring pads and abrasive cloths.
- Any cleaner or polish that has not been checked with the coating supplier or tested on a hidden area first.

6. Light, UV, heat and environmental control

Direct sunlight, very bright indirect light, reflected bright light and excessive heat should be avoided. Light and heat may cause fading, bleaching, darkening, discolouration or colour change in both the veneer and the coating.

Use curtains, blinds, UV-filtering films or appropriate glazing where needed, especially near large windows and areas with strong sunlight or reflected light.

Avoid placing veneered surfaces near heat sources, vents, unprotected windows, wet areas or areas with persistent moisture or condensation. Sudden or extreme temperature and humidity changes may contribute to timber movement, checking, coating cracking or other surface damage.

Use heat-resistant mats or protective barriers under hot items where the finished item design allows such use. Do not place hot cookware, appliances, lamps or other heat-generating items directly on veneered surfaces unless the finished system has been specifically designed and approved for that purpose.

7. Areas and uses requiring special caution

TABU raw pre-dyed veneer is intended for properly fabricated, sealed and coated interior applications only. It should not be used or maintained as though it were a waterproof, exterior, flooring, or high-wear material.

- Avoid exterior use, including partially sheltered exterior areas or areas under awnings.
- Avoid wet, steamy, damp or high-humidity areas, including shower rooms, saunas, wet rooms and similar environments.
- Avoid wet horizontal surfaces, kitchen benchtops, vanity tops, splashbacks, areas above stoves or dishwashers and similar exposure areas unless a complete project-specific system has been separately designed, tested and warranted by the relevant parties.

8. Routine maintenance checklist

- ☐ Keep surfaces clean, dry and protected from bright light and excessive heat.
- ☐ Dust with a soft dry cloth or feather duster only.
- ☐ Wipe spills promptly and dry the surface immediately.
- ☐ Use only cleaning and polishing products approved for the specific coating.
- ☐ Avoid harsh cleaners, alcohol, solvents, bleach, ammonia, orange oil, silicone and abrasives.
- ☐ Control humidity, condensation, steam, leaks and rapid temperature changes.
- ☐ Use curtains, blinds or UV-filtering measures where light exposure is strong.
- ☐ Follow the coating supplier's and finished product manufacturer's care instructions.
- ☐ Contact Surfaces and More, the fabricator or coating supplier before using any uncertain cleaning product or process.

9. Important notice and Australian Consumer Law

This guide provides general care and maintenance guidance only. It is not a project specification, fabrication manual, coating warranty, installation warranty, warranty against defects, sales terms document or substitute for project-specific testing and written advice from relevant suppliers.

Nothing in this guide excludes, restricts or modifies any consumer guarantee, right or remedy that applies under the Australian Consumer Law or any other law that cannot lawfully be excluded, restricted or modified.

Separate Surfaces and More Terms and Conditions of Sale, a separate Handling Guide and relevant product-specific technical information should also be reviewed where applicable.

Contact

Surfaces and More Pty Ltd

Australian distributor of TABU veneers

www.surfacesandmore.au

+61 411 441 302

For project guidance, current technical information or sample requests, contact Surfaces and More before fabrication, coating or installation.