



## **Formica® High Pressure Decorative Laminate – Hygiene and Food Contact**

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### **Introduction**

Formica® decorative laminates, manufactured to EN 438:2016 and ISO 4586, consist of layers of specially selected papers, impregnated with thermosetting resins and bonded together under heat and very high pressure.

The resulting high-pressure laminate is a homogeneous, high-density sheet that is ready to use and ideal for a wide variety of surfacing applications.

Formica® laminates are highly resistant to impact, wear, heat and staining and provide a hygienic, durable and easily-maintained surfacing solution for the most demanding of environments.

They can be fabricated to produce curved surfaces which, with their absence of visible seams, will eliminate joints on internal and external angles in which dirt and liquids can accumulate.

Also, the wide variety of sheets sizes offered enables surfaces to be designed and manufactured with the minimum number of joints or seams.

This is especially applicable in environments where a hygienic, cleanable surface with a minimum of seams and crevices (offering minimal harbour for germs) is desirable.

### **Hygiene**

Formica standard laminate has natural performance properties, that help meet the strictest of cleaning and maintenance regimes, without the need for further additives or treatments.

Because the surface is completely sealed, Formica decorative laminates are impervious to liquids and are very easy to clean and maintain.

Laminate surfaces are best kept clean simply by using water and mild detergent. Non- abrasive liquids or creams are recommended for stubborn stains. They are resistant to steam and boiling water and are therefore ideal for applications where cleanliness and hygiene are important factors.

Formica High Pressure Laminate, has inherent properties that can help reduce the growth of bacteria upon the laminate surface

### **Food contact**

Formica® decorative laminates have been independently tested to EN 1186-1:2002 'Materials and Articles in Contact with Foodstuffs – Plastics' and have passed as suitable for uses involving contact with foodstuffs. These Formica® decorative laminates manufactured to EN 438 and ISO 4586, have no migration affecting food and, consequently, are approved for contact with foodstuffs.

### **Staining**

Formica decorative laminates have been widely and satisfactorily used for many years in laboratories in medicine and industry. They easily meet the requirements of EN 438:2016, which specifies resistance to staining by over 40 substances which are likely to be encountered in everyday use.

These include tea, coffee, milk, citric acid, acetone, alcohol, fruit juices, detergents, bleaches and colouring agents.