

Service » A SHORT MATERIAL COMPENDIUM

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Solid wood fronts

BENEFITS: Solid wood fronts - the ultimate in naturalness. Wood is a naturally growing raw material. It retains its natural beauty and individuality when provided with a resistant paint finish or an oil coating. Each front is unique and incomparable.

FIELD OF USE: Front and surrounding materials.

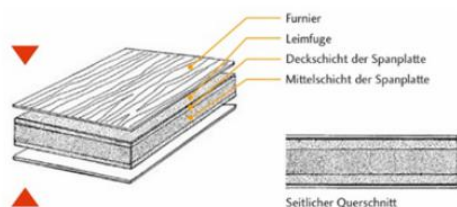
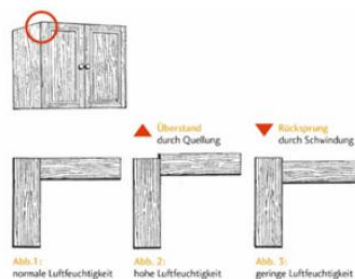
PRODUCTION PROCESS: Frame sections mainly consist of glued solid wood (glulam). The filling and the drawer front sections are veneered over. To ensure that the frame and filling look roughly the same, the frames at the front and back are veneered over. The basic material is very expensive and, as such, is in the top price category in the model groups.

Sold wood and/or wood-based materials

Solid wood is a "living" material which reacts, in particular, to air humidity. Wood is said to "work" (to naturally contract and expand). Whilst these material-specific properties can be slowed down by surface treatment, they cannot be completely stopped. Therefore ensure that the air humidity in your kitchen is ideally between 40% and 60% (relative air humidity).

If it is above or below this limit for only two or three days, there will be no adverse effects. And as regards your own wellbeing, this is the relative air humidity that most people feel most comfortable in.

As a result of the different regions in which it grows, wood - as a pure natural product - is subject to slight colour and structure variations. This is a quality trait that solid wood enthusiasts treasure.



Veneer

Veneer is thinly cut "solid wood" with a thickness of up to 8 mm. When glued onto wood-based materials, a similar appearance to solid wood is obtained as well as a reduction in susceptibility to air humidity variations.

Wood-based materials (e.g. particleboard, HDF and MDF)

Wood-based material is the overall term for board material made of wood fibre, wood chips and veneer. Particleboard (also known as chipboard) is made of wood chips glued together under high pressure and at temperatures of approx. 100° C. The intermediate layer consists of coarse chips and the top layer of fine chips. This produces a "planking effect" ensuring that the shape of the board stays stable. Particleboards are always coated on both sides with veneer or plastic. HDF (HDF = high-density fibreboard) and MDF (MDF = medium density fibreboard) are made in a similar way to particleboard. In contrast to particleboards, fine wood fibres are used here. This results in a greater weight. HDF and MDF panels have an almost closed-pore surface and are particularly suitable for substrates made of 3-D film-coated fronts and coloured lacquered fronts.

Plastics

Plastics are mainly used as surfaces of fronts and carcasses. A distinction is made between duroplastics and thermoplastics. Melamine resin is used as duroplastic. Melamine resin can be used in numerous ways. The decor can be patterned or of a plain colour. Usually having a smooth and non-porous surface, it is particularly easy to clean. Melamine resin-based laminates fulfil the particular requirements of worktops and, as such, are used in their production. Thermoplastic is used as the surface for fronts. Its advantage is that even flat profiles can be designed without joints.

Melamine fronts (direct coating)

BENEFITS: Melamine fronts make possible a wide variety of



