



COMPACT LAMINATE  
PROCESSING  
GUIDELINES

Stylam Compact Laminates are robust, self-supporting surfaces designed for a wide range of demanding applications. To ensure optimal performance and longevity, adhere to the following processing guidelines:

## 1. Storage and Handling

- **Storage Conditions:** Store compact laminates flatly in a clean, dry area. Maintain temperatures between 18–25°C and relative humidity of 50–65%. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight, moisture, or temperature fluctuations to prevent warping.
- **Handling:** Always lift and carry sheets by two people for safety. Avoid dragging sheets to protect their surfaces and edges.

## 2. Conditioning

- Allow both the laminate and substrate to acclimate to the ambient working conditions for at least 48 hours prior to fabrication.

## 3. Cutting and Machining

- **Cutting Tools:** Use carbide-tipped or diamond-tipped blades for cutting. Ensure tools are sharp and operated at optimal speeds to prevent edge chipping or cracking.
- **Feed Rate:** Maintain steady feed rates during cutting. Excessive force can lead to overheating and material damage.
- **Edge Finishing:** After cutting, smooth the edges with fine-grit sandpaper or filing tools for a clean finish.

## 4. Drilling

- Use drill bits designed for solid compact materials with a point angle of 60°–80° and a cutting angle of 0°–5°.
- Always drill from the decorative surface side, supporting the backside to avoid splintering.

## 5. Bonding (Optional)

- Compact laminates are self-supporting; however, if bonding is required, use adhesives suited for high-density materials, such as polyurethane-based or contact adhesives.
- Ensure the bonding surfaces are clean, dry, and free of dust or grease before application.

## 6. Fastening and Fixing

- **Mechanical Fixing:** Compact laminates can be fixed with screws or bolts. Pre-drill pilot holes to avoid cracking and maintain hole spacing of at least 20 mm from the edges.
- **Adhesive Fixing:** For wall cladding or decorative applications, strong construction adhesives can be used.



## 7. Cleaning and Maintenance

- Clean surfaces with a soft cloth dampened with mild soap and water. Avoid abrasive cleaners or harsh chemicals that can damage the surface.
- Stains should be removed promptly using a non-abrasive cleaning pad.

## 8. Safety Precautions

- Always use personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, safety goggles, and dust masks while cutting or machining compact laminates.
- Ensure proper ventilation in the workspace to avoid inhalation of dust and fumes during processing.

- **ADDITIONAL PROCESSING AND HANDLING POINTS SPECIFICALLY FOR COMPACT LAMINATES;**

- **ROUTING:** FOR DECORATIVE EDGES OR INTRICATE DESIGNS, USE CNC MACHINES WITH CARBIDE OR DIAMOND-TIPPED ROUTING TOOLS. ENSURE SMOOTH TRANSITIONS TO AVOID CHIPPING.
- **THERMAL EXPANSION:** ALLOW FOR SLIGHT EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION BY PROVIDING ADEQUATE SPACING (MINIMUM 2–3 MM) BETWEEN PANELS OR AROUND FIXING POINTS, ESPECIALLY IN EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS.
- **EDGE PROTECTION:** USE EDGE-BANDING OR FINISHING TREATMENTS TO PROTECT EXPOSED EDGES IN HIGH-MOISTURE OR HIGH-IMPACT AREAS.
- **PANEL ALIGNMENT:** WHEN INSTALLING MULTIPLE PANELS, ENSURE ALIGNMENT BY MAINTAINING UNIFORM SPACING AND UTILIZING JOINT FILLERS OR GASKETS IF NECESSARY.
- **THICKER PANELS:** FOR THICKER COMPACT LAMINATES, REDUCE CUTTING SPEEDS AND INCREASE FEED RATES TO PREVENT EXCESSIVE HEAT BUILDUP DURING MACHINING.
- **SURFACE COMPATIBILITY:** TEST ADHESIVES, PAINTS, OR COATINGS FOR COMPATIBILITY WITH THE COMPACT LAMINATE SURFACE, ESPECIALLY WHEN USED IN DECORATIVE OR SEALING APPLICATIONS.
- **IMPACT RESISTANCE:** USE PROTECTIVE PADS OR CUSHIONING DURING HANDLING AND TRANSPORTATION TO PREVENT DENTING OR CORNER DAMAGE.
- **FIRE SAFETY COMPLIANCE:** FOR COMPACT LAMINATES RATED FOR FIRE RESISTANCE, ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL FIRE SAFETY CODES DURING INSTALLATION. USE APPROPRIATE FASTENERS OR SUBSTRATES TO MAINTAIN THE FIRE-RESISTANT PROPERTIES.

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CAUTION: THESE GUIDELINES ARE INTENDED AS GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROCESSING STYLAM COMPACT LAMINATES. VARIATIONS IN END-USE APPLICATIONS, TOOLS, AND TECHNIQUES MAY LEAD TO DIFFERENCES IN THE FINAL PRODUCT. IT IS ADVISABLE TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY TESTS AND CONSULT WITH PROFESSIONALS FOR SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.

# Reach out!



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