

ARMORBOND®

2-STEP Plywood Panels for Painting General Purpose MDO



THE PAINTABLE PANEL

ARMORBOND from Richmond Plywood Corporation Limited (Richply) is an overlaid panel that is ideal for painting. In particular, it finds ready acceptance in the market as a superior base for painted signs.

ARMORBOND is an EXTERIOR type plywood with a weather-resistant resin overlay bonded to the wood by heat and pressure. This process fuses the molecules of the overlay with the fibers of the wood to form a bond as strong as the wood itself.

ARMORBOND has all the advantages of regular plywood as well as additional properties. The overlay, which has a 28% resin content, resists water, weather, wear and degradation. It has a texture that paint can grip with remarkable tenacity. Paint finishes on ARMORBOND panels are up to three times more durable than the same finish applied to ordinary plywood.

ARMORBOND is manufactured using core veneer welding equipment that minimizes internal laps and gaps to give a more solid, durable panel. Richply is a member of APA - Engineered Wood Association, and all production is subject to APA's stringent quality control procedures. ARMORBOND is a quality plywood product that can be used with confidence.



Dimensions and Packaging

TWO-STEP ARMORBOND

Thickness (Imperial)	Number of Plies	Packaging (Panels/Unit)
11/32	3/5	90
15/32	5/7	70
1/2	5/7	60
11/16	7	50
3/4	7	40

Richmond Plywood also produces a 1-Step GENERAL PURPOSE MDO. This panel is suitable for applications where the high-design qualities of our premium panel ARMORBOND 2-STEP are not required.

ONE-STEP GENERAL PURPOSE

Thickness (Imperial)	Number of Plies	Packaging (Panels/Unit)
3/8	3/5	80
1/2	5/7	60
5/8	5/7	50
3/4	7	40

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Benefits for Painted Signs

In many instances, overlaid plywood like ARMORBOND has proven a more durable sign material than metal. ARMORBOND is resistant to the elements with no danger of rust or corrosion. The smooth overlaid plywood surface retains paint finishes for many years and gives excellent results to silk-screen and roll coating systems. Reflective overlays can easily be applied without special surface preparation.

ARMORBOND is a 2-step panel that is highly resistant to grain raising and checking and its tough resin surface is resistant to dents and chips. The 2-step process creates a more uniform panel with a smooth surface which will help to eliminate the majority of telegraphing (show-through) of properties inherent in wood-based panels (patches, growth rings, etc.). It must be noted, however, that plywood is a natural product which may swell in wet and humid conditions and some telegraphing may occur on painted ARMORBOND panels.

ARMORBOND signs give many years of trouble-free and attractive service and can be recycled without loss of surface quality.

Other advantages of ARMORBOND®

Workability ARMORBOND can be sawed, routed, drilled, shaped, jointed and edge-planed without chipping or tearing the surface. For best results, use sharp, high-speed power tools although hand tools also give satisfactory results.

Fasteners Screws, nails, staples and a wide range of adhesives can all be used with ARMORBOND.

Durability Highly resistant to moisture absorption resulting in reduced swelling, checking and grain raise. This helps to assure increased durability and long-term paint adhesion.

Hardness ARMORBOND's resin overlay provides a dense surface with high abrasion and impact resistance.

Backer Paper A lightweight aesthetic paper over a "C" back. This paper helps balance the panel.

Manufacturer **does not recommend** painting backer paper. Painting backer covers identification and may cause telegraphing over the "C" back.

Painting ARMORBOND®

ARMORBOND requires no special surface preparation or finishing procedures. Paint flows evenly and smoothly, penetrating the surface uniformly and providing an attractive appearance combined with efficient use of paint. For best results, the following procedure is recommended.

- Panel surface should be clean, dry and free of contaminants. Protect panel edges with one or two coats of a primer or sealant to prevent water absorption. Panel edges can be easily painted when panels are stacked.
- Use of a primer and one or two finish coats is recommended. Priming coats are extremely important and should not be applied too thinly. Following the manufacturer's spread rate is strongly recommended. Use 100% acrylic latex or alkyd oil paint as a primer, and follow paint manufacturer's instructions.



- For topcoats, acrylic latex paints are the most popular exterior paints available. They dry quickly, are flexible and enduring, with water thinning and clean up. Alkyd paints for topcoats may also be used, as these are somewhat more resistant to abrasion than latex paints. However, alkyd finishes are slow drying, tend to become brittle and can discolor when exposed to airborne fumes. Alkyd paints are generally self-priming but more than one coat should be applied for added durability. To ensure compatibility between the topcoat finish and the primer, both should be obtained from the same manufacturer.
- Alkyd enamels are frequently used as the finish coat for signs. Enamel gives a flat, semi-gloss or high-gloss finish with excellent wear and durability. When using enamel on ARMORBOND, make sure to first use a compatible primer according to the paint manufacturer's recommendations. Do not use enamel coatings over latex primers.
- A single coat of approved solid color stain may be used for exterior finishes, however only solid color latex stains are recommended.
- Clear or transparent film-forming finishes such as synthetics, varnishes and lacquers are not recommended for exterior use. Other finishes that are not recommended include low luster alkyd (blister resistant) paints, semi-transparent stains; solid color oil based stains, masonry paints, automotive primers and shake-and-shingle paints (or stains).
- Sprays, brushes and rollers may be used to apply finishes to ARMORBOND.

Follow paint manufacturers' recommendations.

While every precaution has been taken to ensure that all information contained in this publication is accurate, Richply assumes no responsibility for any errors or oversights in the use of it or in the preparation of designs based on it or for any work based on it.

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