

PROCEDURE FOR PROCURING DIGITAL PRINT LAMINATE.

1. Digital artwork is supplied by the client with their own design, colours, logos, menus etc as required. Depending on the size of the table this design could be reproduced several times on one sheet of laminate.
2. The factory will make up 2 working sample sheets for approval of the design. This process can take around 3 weeks.
3. Once approval has been given, a minimum of 10 finished sheets can then be produced. This usually takes around another 3 weeks.
4. The surface finish is governed by the pressing plates, so that a grained or brushed effect can be imprinted into the resin surface during the manufacture process.

When laminate is manufactured, it involves a number of thin layers of paper and resin. One of these layers will be decorative paper which carries the colour/designs/patterns that have been selected. Over this layer will be a number of clear layers of phenolic resin which is clear, thus allowing the design of the decorative paper below to be visible. It is important to note that genuine digital print does not print on top of the laminate as is often thought. It is every bit as hard wearing as any high-pressure laminate, and thus is resistant to scratching, chemical and liquid spillage. The surface finish is impressed during the high pressure heat process applied to form all the layers into the finished product.

The substrate used when bonding laminate sheets is Plywood or MDF. For the application of tables, this would normally be marine grade ply.

An alternative is Compact Grade Laminate which is 12-16mm thick, and is literally a solid sheet of laminate made up of many more layers of paper and resin. This does not require a timber substrate, but is more expensive. Its main advantage is resistance to moisture. This product is often found in toilet cubicle partitions where it is regularly washed down with chemicals. The same design process as hpl still applies, as does the minimum order of 10 sheets.

**EASTERN LAMINATE SUPPLIES**

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