

SAFE HANDLING AND STORAGE

Introduction

This fabrication bulletin addresses the handling and storage of Corian® Solid Surface and accessories.

Overview

Proper handling and storage of Corian® Solid Surface products and accessories will help avoid injuries and ensure that these products are in good condition when time comes to start fabrication.

A. Handling Corian® Solid Surface sheet

Sheets of Corian® are best unloaded from the delivery vehicle on the pallet with a forklift or lifting device. Pallets of 12 mm x 760 mm x 3,658 mm sheet can weigh up to 770 kg. The forklift or lifting device should be capable of lifting this weight under the use conditions.

If no suitable equipment is available the pallet should be opened on the vehicle bed and sheet manually handled on edge, one sheet at a time. Because of the weight (each 12 mm sheet is approximately 59 kg) and sharpness of sheet edges, proper safety shoes and appropriate gloves should be worn.

All individual sheets must be handled by two people and carried on edge with one hand under to support, and one hand over to control the sheet. It is important to carry 6 mm sheet vertically as it may flex excessively when carried horizontally.

Special carrying devices are also a good alternative when carrying large sheets of Corian® Solid Surface. There are many manufacturers of vacuum lifts and heavy duty carts which can be used to handle heavy sheets and tops.

HELPFUL HINTS

Do not attempt to unload or carry sheets of Corian® Solid Surface unaided.

Do not carry sheets horizontally or unsupported, and do not handle sheets with bare hands when unloading.

The product is fragile, heavy and must be handled with care to avoid damage.

B. Handling Corian® sinks and basins

Sinks and basins should be carried right side up as indicated by the arrow on the packaging. Although the packaging is designed to afford the maximum transport protection, it is very important that the products are treated as fragile at all times.

HELPFUL HINTS

Do not drop, drag or risk impact to packaged products.

Do not place heavy loads on top of packaged products.

Do not store outdoors or allow packaged products to get wet, this will weaken the packaging.

C. Handling accessories

General accessories require no specific handling instructions; however, DuPont™ Joint Adhesive and Corian® Joint Adhesive have specific storage, protective equipment and use guidelines to ensure quality and safety. Please refer to *Corian® Solid Surface Fabrication/Installation Fundamentals – Adhesives* (K-25290) and appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for additional details.

HELPFUL HINTS

Don't leave accessories such as adhesives exposed to extremes of temperature.

Protect eyes and skin from contact with adhesives.

D. Storing Corian® Solid Surface sheet

Sheet must be stored so that the product is kept in a perfectly flat condition to prevent warp. Sheets of Corian® Solid Surface should not be allowed to get wet in storage.

Access to sheets for easy handling is essential, as is a storage system which allows for easy sheet colour and batch identification.

Sheets of Corian® Solid Surface are most effectively stored between 16-24°C and must be kept in a dry and well-ventilated area. This can be achieved by storing the sheet horizontally or vertically.

Horizontal Storage

Support must be such that the sheet is kept in a perfectly flat condition to prevent sagging or warping. This requires either full underlayment support or rack support every 610 mm.

The pallets on which Corian® Solid Surface is shipped will be sufficient if they are in good condition and are not missing any blocks. If pallets are stacked it is essential that the blocks are aligned. If sheet is stored on pallets where blocks are missing, damaged, or misaligned warp is likely.

Vertical storage

The base of the sheet should be fully supported by the floor or similar stable platform. Sheets should lean on supports affixed to a wall or strong vertical support. These supports must be capable of supporting the number of 12 mm sheets you intend to lean against it.

HELPFUL HINTS

The key element is to store sheets of Corian® Solid Surface in a manner that prevents any warping.

Sheets of Corian® Solid Surface should not be allowed to get wet in storage.

Access to sheets for easy handling is essential, as is a storage system which allows for easy sheet batch identification.

E. Storing Corian® Solid Surface sinks and basins

Sinks and basins should be stored to allow easy access and identification of the contents of the box. Do not store heavy products on top of sink boxes. For safety, these should not be stacked more than six boxes high. Products in cardboard boxes should not be stored outdoors or allowed to get wet.

F. Storing accessories

No specific care and attention is required for accessories for Corian® Solid Surface, with the exception of DuPont™ Joint Adhesive and Corian® Joint Adhesive. The storage requirements for adhesives and sealants are discussed in *Corian® Solid Surface Fabrication/Installation Fundamentals – Adhesives* (K-25290).

G. Referenced documents

Corian® Solid Surface Fabrication/Installation Fundamentals – Adhesives (K-25290).

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