

Flat Cut MDF lettering overview

Flat cut MDF lettering. logos and shapes are manufactured from solid sheets of quality MDF.

MDF lettering products are machined via CNC routing systems. We offer three types of MDF product;

Ecological Zero Formaldehyde
Moisture Resistant (MR)
Exterior (EX)



We do not machine standard Beige coloured MDF sheets as this material is prone to fibre lift on cut edges. All MDF products will be made from one of the three quality brands indicated by logo.

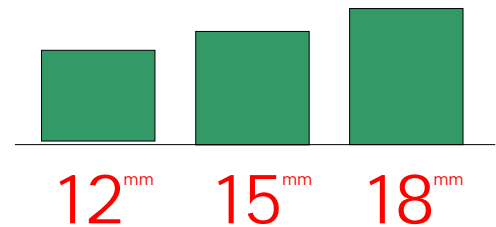
Zero Formaldehyde

This material is designed for environmentally sensitive areas such as hospitals, museums and schools.

If this product is sealed with Nextel 3101 it will prevent emissions of organic acids.

This product is subject to a lead time.

This product is suitable for interior applications only.



Moisture resistant

This MDF type is our standard product and is supplied as a default option. Unless you specify otherwise any standard MDF lettering product will be made from this material.

Moisture resistant (MR) material has a higher resin content than standard MDF and as such provides a much cleaner cut edge which is less prone to fibre lift.

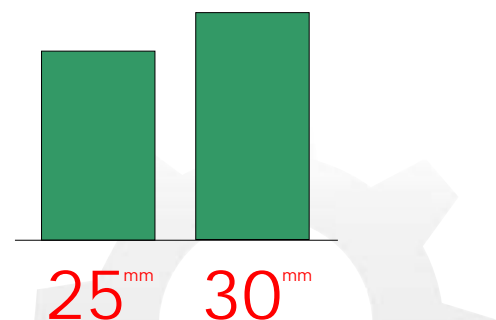
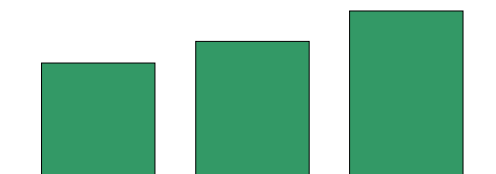
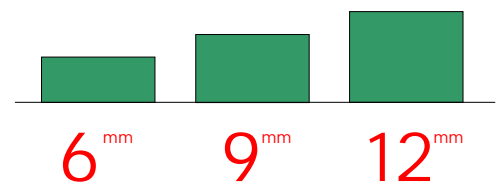
This material is available in a wide range of thicknesses (see side column)

MR MDF can be machined into flat shapes as well as carved 3D letters and V-carved panels.

This product is a Green colour in it's natural state.

Sheet sizes are 2400 x 1220mm and 3050 x 1220mm.

This material is suitable for interior applications only.



Exterior grade (EX)

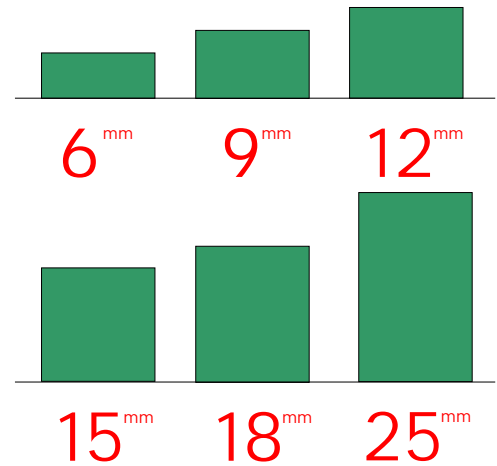
This MDF type is suitable for exterior applications and is a Grey colour in it's natural state.

This material is suitable for exterior flat cut lettering products, 3D letters and panels.

Sheet sizes are 2400 x 1220mm. Larger 3050 x1220mm sheets are available in certain thicknesses- 12 & 18mm only.

If you wish to use products made from this material for external applications it is essential that proper sealing, priming and top coating procedures are followed.

Poor paint finishes will cause this material to swell.



Letter fixings- cup and peg

Letter fixings are available in three sizes/ diameters. Your lettering will be fitted with fixings whose size is most compatible with the stroke width.

The **minimum stroke width you can use is 13mm**. If your stroke width is less than 13mm there is insufficient area to mount any cup and peg fixing- the peg part of the fixing will overhang your letters. You can outline your original lettering until the 13mm minimum is achieved.

All letter fixings are first bonded to a 3mm acrylic base plate using acrylic cement. This assembly is then screwed and glued to the rear or the letters . Letter fixings are placed in a random pattern. Uniform fixing patterns can be provided on request subject to a small additional charge. Uniform fixing placement allows replacement letters to mount direct onto the cup part of the fixing without the need for re-drilling.

Computer plotted paper layout template(s) are supplied along with instructions as to how to mark and use the template(s)

Fixing screws and rawlplugs are not supplied unless specifically requested.



Red= fixing diameter
Blue= standoff distance including 3mm thick acrylic base plate.

Letter fixings- VHB tape (surface mounting)

If you require letters which “stick” in place or you need letters which are too small for cup and peg fixings we will supply letters pre-installed with VHB* double sided tape pads.

The standard type of VHB tape we supply is 19mm wide, 0.5mm thick and clear in colour.

This type of VHB* tape is an industrial product which is suitable for interior and exterior uses.

It is imperative that the fixing surface you apply any VHB mounted letters to is smooth and has been thoroughly cleaned with Isopropanol Alcohol (IPA). Once wiped with IPA you must allow the solvent to evaporate before attempting to mount your letters.

This type of lettering is supplied with a self adhesive template.

You must NOT use any other cleaning agent. IPA is the ONLY suitable product for use with VHB tapes.

* VHB means Very High Bond



Letter fixings- threaded studs & plates

Letters can be supplied pre fitted with M6 base plates. These plates feature an M6 nut which allows an M6 threaded rod to be wound into the base plate.

The base plates are bonded and screwed to the rear of each letter using a two part acrylic adhesive and short screws.

These fixings are supplied with 120mm long M6 studding and a computer drawn paper template.

To mount this type of lettering you must ensure that the fixings holes you drill are blown out properly. We recommend the use of a chemical resin system (ChemFix).

This type of fixing system is NOT suitable for timber surfaces or surfaces with voids behind.



You may purchase letter fixings, adhesives and VHB tapes as loose items.

Manufacturing from supplied files.

If you require specific typefaces or logo shapes you need to supply us with a “clean” vector based file in .DXF or .AI/ EPS format. If you are working from an Apple Mac platform please ensure your files are exported in PC compatible formats.

If you are using free typefaces sourced from the internet please check the quality of the vector lines. Free typefaces are notorious for poor quality and irregular line shape.

Our production equipment machines EXACTLY what your file tells it to. Jagged lines and stepped curves will be reproduced if they pre-exist in your files.

For Corel users we can accept native .CDR files in versions up to 12. Please remember to convert all text to curves (shortcut key CTRL+Q).

Manufacturing from supplied specifications.

We manufacture to the specifications provided to us. Please ensure that the specification you provide contains sufficient information so as to clearly explain exactly what you require.

If after manufacture you discover that the original specification is not fit for purpose this does not constitute grounds for free replacement goods, reworking or an entitlement to a full refund. Your specification represents the goods you require. It is in your own interest to ensure you correctly specify each job you undertake.

Ordering

When you place your order we will program your job into our schedules. We aim to deliver MDF flat cut lettering as quickly as possible. Standard material types should be available ex stock from our suppliers. Custom MDF types and projects which require large quantities of MDF sheet may be subject to a delay whilst our suppliers arrange groupage of stock.

When specifying your order the onus is on you to supply accurate, detailed information as to the fixing system you require and the thickness you require. Whilst we will endeavour to advise you on all aspects of this product we are not able to carry out on site surveys or technical investigations on your behalf.

We have created a PDF order form for this product which is available from our website.

This document is for guidance only. All orders accepted subject to our standard terms and conditions. See www.smart-group.co.uk for more information.

