

MEG FAQs

What is MEG?

Material Exterior Grade

MEG is a self-supporting high pressure laminate (HPL) with a decorative surface that is intended for exteriors. Compact, self-supporting HPL is made of layers of cellulose fibers impregnated with thermosetting phenolic resins plus a surface layer of decorative paper treated with special protection against exterior elements.

What is the factory produced size of the MEG panel?

The typical factory produced panel size is 51" x 120". Please contact your ABET, Inc. representative for any exceptions. This panel dimension can be altered into various other panel dimensions by the local fabricator.

What thickness is the MEG panel?

Even though MEG can be produced in a number of thicknesses, the one best for testing compliance and visual appeal is 10 mm (3/8") thickness.

How is MEG installed?

MEG is installed using the "Rainscreen" principle. Other commonly used terms for the correct MEG installation method are "Open Jointed" and "Back Ventilated". All three of these building descriptions take into account the necessary principles needed for the long term performance of MEG.

How is MEG best used?

MEG is best used for building facades, canopies, soffits, dormers, and other vertical exterior applications. It is recommended to first consult your ABET Inc. representative before using MEG for other types of applications.

Can I directly apply MEG to a building?

MEG should never be applied directly to an exterior. For MEG to properly perform, an air space of no less than 1" (25 mm) must always be left behind the back of the panel.

Can the MEG panels be installed with a butt joint?

Depending on the thickness of the MEG panel, a space of a certain size must always be left around the four sides of the panel. For example, when using a 10 mm (3/8") thick MEG panel, a space of 10 mm (3/8") must be left around the four sides for the panel to properly perform over time.

Who supplies the sub-structure to install MEG?

Even though MEG can be installed using a sub-structure of various materials, the best option to install MEG is with the use of extruded aluminum profiles. The profiles are supplied by third party vendors.

Does the MEG panel arrive from the factory ready to be installed?

The MEG panels arrive from the factory meeting both internal and third party specifications, but are **NOT ready** to be installed without further panel fabrication.

What fabrication is required to prepare MEG for installation?

It should be expected that the panels will **require** complete panel fabrication; including finishing the four edges to meet desired visual appearance.

Does the MEG panel come with screws and or fasteners to be used for installation?

Stainless screws can be ordered separately to color match the MEG panel.

Can any color from the ABET Laminati color pallet be made into MEG?

Only certain colors have been tested and are appropriate for exterior use. Please refer to the website and literature for the colors listed under the product section, Exterior Panels.

How long does it take to receive the MEG panels?

The MEG panels are not stocked and are made to order. Please contact your ABET, Inc. representative for lead-time information.

When installing MEG, do I need to be aware of the directional alignment of the MEG panel?

Yes, the MEG panels do have a “grain” direction. For proper visual appearance, please take note that the panels are correctly aligned.

When do I inspect the panels for any possible imperfections?

Please inspect the panels before they are installed. The MEG panels do arrive with a protective film for use during shipping. The likelihood of a defect is slight, but even the best of us can have a bad day. It is highly recommended that the panels are inspected prior to fabrication and installation since ABET, Inc. will replace only the MEG panel(s) deemed unacceptable upon delivery. This excludes any cost related to fabrication and/or installation.

Do all panels come with two decorative surfaces?

With the exception of colors 414-416-475-819-825-854-1813 that only can be produced with two (2) decorative sides, all MEG colors will be produced with one (1) side decorative. All panels can be manufactured with two (2) decorative sides at your specific request.

Can I order MEG with a core color other than brown?

MEG can only be produced with a brown core and due to the nature of the raw materials used in the production of the core the shade of brown can vary from batch to batch.

My project does not require third party testing and I am looking to economize on the substructure to install MEG. Therefore I am considering the use of wood, is this material wise to use?

Many times the least expensive way in the short run becomes the most expensive in the long run. Even though wood may offer some price savings upfront for the project it is not a sound and stable material due to its natural movement and deterioration in time. This may require on-going maintenance, repair and callbacks that could have been easily avoided with the use of a substructure made from extruded aluminum. The use of wood is never a recommended material to use with the installation of MEG.

MEG Basis (color code 8800) is a very interesting material, what should I know about this product before I use it?

MEG Basic does not contain a decorative layer like the other MEG colors. This may result in large tone variations within the same panel and also between different panels. Further, since MEG Basic does not contain a decorative layer and is made from the raw material that makes up the core of MEG, it will patina over time enhancing its organic appearance and will not be covered under the standard MEG warranty.