

PLASTERBOARD LAMINATES

1. Identification of the substance / preparation and company

Substance / preparation

- Knauf Thermal Laminate
- Knauf Thermal Laminate Plus
- Knauf Phenolic Laminate
- Knauf Mineral Laminate

Manufacturer

Knauf Drywall
Head Office
P.O. Box 133
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Kent ME10 3HW

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2. Composition/Information on ingredients

Plasterboard Laminates are comprised in general of a core of calcium sulphate dihydrate encased in paper liners onto which various insulation materials are laminated. Minor additives include starch, foaming agents and dispersants.

Knauf Thermal Laminate is backed with an expanded polystyrene. The expanded polystyrene contains residual amounts of Pentane (<1%wt), Styrene Monomer and Hydrogen Bromide (FRA Grades only).

Knauf Thermal Laminate Plus is backed with an extruded polystyrene, which is a CFC free, closed-cell rigid polystyrene board.

Knauf Phenolic Laminate is backed with phenolic foam, which has a wet-lay glass-fibre tissue facing and a rigid phenolic foam core.

Knauf Mineral Laminate is backed with dense mineral wool, which is an inert vitreous silicate mineral wool which may be bonded with cured urea extended phenol formaldehyde resin, and may contain up to 0.05% of mineral oil as a dust suppressant.

3. Hazards Identification

Cutting and sanding of plasterboard may generate excessive dust.

Gypsum dust may irritate eyes or sensitive skin, it may irritate the respiratory system.

The operator should wear non-restrictive clothing, especially avoiding constructions at neck and wrist etc. It is recommended that work clothing should be washed separately from other family clothing.

When cutting Knauf Thermal Laminate or Knauf Phenolic Laminate with automatic saws or knives, static electricity may be generated which could create sparks. Such equipment, therefore, must be correctly earthed.

4. First Aid Measures

Inhalation: Clear respiratory tract and remove the person to fresh air.

Skin contact: Rinse skin with running water, then wash with water and soap.

When molten material has adhered to the skin from thermal laminate board, then rinse skin with plenty of cold water. Do not attempt to remove the material from the skin. Seek medical attention.

Eye contact: Irrigate with plenty of water and obtain medical advice.

Ingestion: Wash mouth out and drink plenty of water.

Please note: should any symptoms persist obtain medical assistance.

5. Fire-fighting Measures

Plasterboard has a limited combustibility.

Knauf Thermal Laminate emits flammable vapours which will easily and quickly ignite, when subjected to a constant heat of 230°C and above. CO₂, dry powder or BCF fire extinguishers, hose reels, sand and other types of flame and/or fire extinguishing equipment can be used. The product will produce carbon monoxide when subjected to fire, as well as other gases which may be hazardous to health if inhaled.

Knauf Thermal Laminate Plus is flame retarded (to BS4735) to protect from small ignition sources. Product is ultimately combustible if exposed to a sustained source of ignition.

Knauf Phenolic Laminate is combustible when exposed to an ignition source of sufficient intensity. Fire extinguish media; Waterspray, foam, CO₂, dry powder. The product will produce carbon monoxide when subjected to fire, as well as other gases which may be hazardous to health if inhaled.

Knauf Mineral Laminate does not constitute a fire hazard.

HEALTH & SAFETY



6. Accidental release measures

The formation of dust should be controlled and suppressed, collect released dust and put into bags.

Prevent these products from contaminating drains and watercourses.

(refer to section 8, *Exposure/Protection* and section 13, *Disposal Considerations*).

7. Handling and Storage

Plasterboard laminates are supplied shrink wrapped on timber bearers. Packs should be lifted with a fork lift truck, the forks being set so there is an even weight distribution and no deformation of the pack. Ensure handling equipment is of adequate capacity and that the personnel are advised of handling procedures and safety clothing. Care should be taken at all times to avoid strain to the handlers. Boards should not be lifted at the short edges or carried horizontally. Carry the boards on the edge, two persons per board, by supporting on long edge and gripping the upper edge to avoid breaking due to flexing.

Plasterboard laminates must be stored flat in a clean dry environment on a flat surface. If timber bearers are used to store boards on site, they should be a minimum 40mm wide and placed at a maximum of 450mm centres.

Knauf Thermal Laminate, Knauf Thermal Laminate Plus and Knauf Phenolic Laminate must be sited well away and protected from any likely cause of ignition, heat or fire hazard so as not to cause spread, or increase any risk of fire or flame spread.

All products should be protected from direct, intense sunlight.

Note: If handling manually, consider risks as required by manual handling operations regulations 1992.

Plasterboard laminates are not designed to support body weight; Fixers must use an independent support systems.

8. Exposure controls/personal protection

Occupational exposure limits

Substance	Total inhalable	Total respirable
Gypsum	10mg/m ³	4mg/m ³
Limestone	10mg/m ³	4mg/m ³
Polystyrene	10mg/m ³	
Quartz	0.3 mg/m ³ (MEL)	
MMMF	5 mg/m ³ (MEL)	

Note: 8 hour TWA reference period

The man made mineral fibres (MMMF) used in Knauf Phenolic Laminate and Knauf Mineral Laminate are non-respirable.

Personal protection

Respiratory: The area of work requires appropriate ventilation and dust formation should be minimised and controlled. If dust formation can not be controlled wear a suitable disposable mask to BS 6016 in order to minimise inhalation of dust and fibres.

Hand: Protective gloves can be worn or a barrier of cream can be applied to the hands to reduce the effect of hand contact.

Eye: If the formation of dust is likely to occur, safety goggles to BS EN 166 2A5 are recommended. Safety goggles must be worn when handling Knauf Mineral Laminates.

Skin: To avoid skin contact wear overalls and footwear.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Appearance: Solid flat sheets.

Colour: Will vary depending on type.

pH: 7

(Refer to section 2 – *Composition/Information on ingredients*)

10. Stability and reactivity

Stable and unreactive.

11. Toxicological information

Inhalation: Dust can cause short term irritation to the respiratory system.

No known long term effects.

Skin contact: Prolonged or repeated contact may cause dry skin leading to irritation.

Eye contact: Short term irritation can be experienced due to dust formation.

Ingestion: Wash mouth out and drink plenty of water.

12. Ecological information

The expanded polystyrene used in Knauf Thermal Laminate is non toxic, but not biodegradable and small particles may have physical effects on aquatic and terrestrial organisms.

HEALTH & SAFETY



13. Disposal Considerations

Can be disposed of at an authorised landfill site in accordance with local or national regulations.

14. Transport Information

No special provisions required. Ensure integrity of load by use of fixed or curtain sided vehicles.

(Refer to section 5 – fire hazards).

15. Regulatory Information

The products are not classified as hazardous under:

Occupational Exposure Limits EH40, (reviewed and reprinted annually).

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2002.

16. Other Information

This product should be used as directed by Knauf. For further information consult the technical department.

An on-site risk assessment should be carried out before use.

This safety data sheet:

- supersedes all previous issues, and users are cautioned to ensure it is current. Destroy all previous data sheets, and if in any doubt, contact Knauf, quoting the date in the top right hand corner of this document.
- does not replace the users own workplace risk assessment.
- was compiled using the current safety information supplied by the distributors of the component materials.
- is based on the present state of our knowledge and is intended to describe our products from the point of view of health and safety requirement. It should not be construed as guaranteeing specific properties.