

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is MEG? Material Exterior Grade

MEG is an exterior grade phenolic (EGP) panel with a decorative surface that is primarily intended for exterior facades. Compact, self-supporting EGP is made of layers of cellulose fibers impregnated with thermosetting phenolic resins plus a surface layer of decorative paper treated with melamine. A UV inhibitor is added for 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". Panels can be altered into various other panel dimensions by a fabricator. Should your project require alternative sizes, please contact your MEG Inc representative.

What thickness is a typical MEG panel?

Even though MEG can be produced in a number of thicknesses, the best one for testing compliance and visual appeal is 10 mm (3/8") thickness. Light commercial and residential projects with building codes that do not require any testing or that require minimal testing standards may choose to utilize 8 mm MEG panels.

How is MEG installed?

MEG is installed using the "Rainscreen" principle. Other commonly used terms for the *Rainscreen* 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 MEG Inc representative before using MEG for other types of applications.

Can MEG be directly applied 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.

What type of water-resistant barrier (WRB) do I use behind the MEG panels and which is best for my project?

There are several high-quality WRBs on the market that can be used behind MEG panels. While your MEG Inc representative can provide some general guidance, determining which WRB is right for your project will depend on your budget, the preferred application method, local building codes and other specifics of your project. We recommend speaking with a waterproofing consultant and/or the WRB manufacturer to understand which product is best suited to your specific need.

Can the MEG panels be installed with a butt joint?

Based on panel thickness selected, a space of a certain size must always be left around the four sides of a MEG 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, we recommend MEG be installed using extruded aluminum or galvanized steel profiles. Contact your MEG Inc representative for more information regarding attachment profiles.

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 **require further panel fabrication** prior to installation. When fabricating the panels, avoid 90° angles and ensure all edges are **chamfered**. A chamfer is a beveled edge used when connecting two surfaces. A chamfer can be any angle, but if the adjoining surfaces are at right angles, the chamfer will typically be cut at 45°.

What fabrication is required to prepare MEG for installation?

The panels will **require** complete panel fabrication, including finishing the four edges to meet desired visual appearance and performance.

How do I cut MEG?

We recommend you use a fabricator that utilizes routers equipped with computer numerical control (CNC).

How much does MEG bend?

MEG panels are flexible to accommodate large radiuses and general bends but are not designed for route and returns.

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

Typically, the MEG panels are sold separately and do not come with screws or fasteners. High quality 304 stainless screws can be ordered separately to color match the MEG panel.

Can any color from the Abet Laminati color palette be made into MEG?

Only certain colors have been tested and are appropriate for exterior use. For a complete list of colors and finishes, please visit our website at www.megwallpanels.com.

Can MEG panels be created in custom colors?

We can fabricate panels using custom graphic images such as logos or product images, but CANNOT develop panels in custom colors.

Do all panels come with two decorative surfaces?

With the exception of colors 414, 416, 475, 819, 854, 1813 that only can be produced with two (2) decorative sides, all MEG colors will be produced with one (1) decorative side. However, 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.

What is the repeat pattern in the woodgrain(s)?

While there can be a repeat pattern in our woodgrains from panel to panel, the repeat pattern is difficult to detect when the panels are installed. Please contact your MEG representative for project photos illustrating the finished look of woodgrain panels.

Can I refinish MEG?

Because of the way MEG is produced, MEG panels cannot be painted or refinished. MEG panels come with an industry-leading 10 year warranty for color fastness.

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

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?

The use of wood is never a recommended material to use with the installation of MEG. Even though wood may offer some price savings up front, it is not a sound and stable material due to its natural movement and deterioration over time. The use of wood may require on-going maintenance, repair and callbacks that can be easily avoided with the use of a substructure made from extruded aluminum or galvanized steel.

How long does it take to receive the MEG panels?

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

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MATERIAL EXTERIOR GRADE

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

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

When do I inspect the panels for any possible imperfections?

Please inspect the panels before they are fabricated and installed. MEG panels do arrive with a protective film for use during shipping and storage. It is highly recommended that the panels are inspected prior to fabrication and installation since MEG Inc will replace only the MEG panel(s) deemed unacceptable upon delivery. This excludes any cost related to fabrication and/or installation.

Where are MEG panels made?

MEG panels are manufactured in our factory in Bra, Italy. Our factory is periodically audited by third party auditors to ensure our panels maintain compliance with rigorous fire and wind load requirements mandated in Acceptance Criteria 92 (AC-92).

How does MEG compare to other cladding materials?

MEG is a premium product competitively priced within its category. On the whole, exterior grade phenolic panels offer an aesthetically pleasing design that does not compromise durability.