

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET - Masonite™ Hardboard

STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE:

This product in its intact state is not classified as hazardous, but the dust from this product is classified as hazardous according to the criteria of the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission [NOHSC:1008(1999) and NOHSC:10005(1999)].

Name: Australian Hardboards Limited – ABN 40 088 183 420
Address: 51 Ashburn Road, Bundamba Queensland Australia 4305
Contact: **Telephone:** 1300 366 681 **Facsimile:** 1800 666 081

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Australian Hardboards Limited issues this Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), in accordance with the Australian National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) guidelines. As such, the information contained herein must not be altered, deleted or added to. Australian Hardboards Limited will issue a new MSDS when there is a change in product specifications and/or NOHSC guidelines/regulations. Australian Hardboards Limited will not accept any responsibility for any changes made by any other person or organisation.

Product Name:	Masonite™ Hardboard
Other Names:	Masonite™ Standard Masonite™ Pegboard Masonite™ Underlay Masonite™ Packaging M4 & M6 Braceboard Dura-Sign™
	Masonite™ Braceboard Masonite™ White-Cote Masonite™ Readifix Tempered MR Tempered Hardboard P5 Retail Designer System
	Masonite™ Readi-Cote Masonite™ Dura-Cote Masonite™ Color-Cote Readiwall Lining Panel Deco Hardboard Peg-Tuff
Manufacturer's Product Code:	Not Applicable
UN Number:	None Allocated
Dangerous Goods Class & Subsidiary Risk:	None Allocated
Hazchem Code:	None Allocated
Poisons Schedule Number:	None Scheduled
Use:	Wall/ceiling linings, furniture and cabinet linings, general purpose building boards, door facings, floor underlay, automotive components, packaging, space support, shop-fit panels.
Product Description / Properties	
Appearance:	The products are manufactured as pressed, hardboards ranging in thickness from 2.5 mm to 7.9 mm. They are made from hard wood fibres, which are reunited under heat and pressure with a small (<1%) amount of paraffin wax. Masonite Readi-Cote, Readifix, White-Cote and Color-Cote are paint coated one side. Tempered boards (Tempered MR, Dura-Sign and Peg-Tuff) also contain <1% polymer resin and are coated with polymerised linseed oil before curing.
Boiling Point: (°C)	Not Applicable
Melting Point: (°C)	Not Applicable
Vapour Pressure:	Not Applicable
Specific Gravity (H₂O = 1)	0.9 - 1.1
Flashpoint:	Not Applicable
Flammability Limits:	Not Applicable
Solubility in Water:	Negligible
Auto-ignition Temperature (°C):	>200°C

Early Fire Hazard Indices to AS 1530.3

Ignitability Index:	14
Spread of Flame Index:	7
Heat Evolved Index:	6 - 7
Smoke Developed Index:	2 - 3

Ingredients:		
Chemical Name:	CAS Number:	Proportion:
Hardwood (mixed eucalypt species)	-	>99%
Paraffin Wax	8002-74-2	<1%
Polymer resin	40798-65-0	0 - <1%
Linseed oil	8001-26-1	0 - <1%

NB: The proportion of paint used on coated board is less than 1% of board mass.

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

NB: In its intact state this product is not classified as a hazardous substance, but dust generated when using the product has been classified as hazardous according to the criteria of the NOHSC [NOHSC:1008(1999) and NOHSC:10005(1999)]. Exposures to wood dust from the surface of the board or produced from machining the boards, and smoke or vapour from processing (e.g. heating or laser cutting) boards with inadequate ventilation may result in the following health effects:

HEALTH EFFECTS	
Swallowed:	Unlikely to occur but swallowing the dust may result in abdominal discomfort.
Eye:	The dust, smoke or vapour may be irritating to the eyes causing discomfort and redness.
Skin:	The dust, smoke or vapour may irritate the skin, resulting in itching and redness; and dermatitis in some people.
Inhaled:	The dust, smoke or vapour may irritate the nose, throat and lungs, especially in people with upper respiratory tract or chest complaints such as asthma.
Chronic:	Repeated exposure over many years to uncontrolled wood dust increases the risk of nasal cavity cancer. Inhalation of wood dust may also increase the risk of lung fibrosis (scarring). There are increased risks of respiratory/skin sensitisation from wood dust resulting in asthma/dermatitis respectively. Wood dust has been evaluated by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as Group 1, carcinogenic to humans.

FIRST AID	
Swallowed:	Give water to drink. If abdominal discomfort occurs seek medical attention.
Eye:	Flush with flowing water for at least 15 minutes, and if symptoms persist seek medical attention.
Skin:	Wash with mild soap and running water. Remove clothing contaminated with wood dust.
Inhaled:	Leave the dusty area.
Advice to Doctor:	Treat symptomatically.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Standards:	The Australian NOHSC Exposure Standard for hardwood dust, published in May 1995 is: Wood dust (hardwood): 1 mg/cubic metre time-weighted average (TWA) Sen - sensitiser. Paraffin wax (fume): 2 mg / cubic metre time-weighted average (TWA). Keep exposures as low as practicable with the aim of maintaining inspirable wood dust levels below 1.0mg/cubic metre (TWA).
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Engineering Controls:	All work with the hardboards should be carried out in such a way as to minimise the generation of, and exposure to dust, smoke or vapour. Under factory conditions, sawing, drilling, sanding, heat pressing and laser cutting etc. should be done with equipment fitted with exhaust devices capable of removing wood dust, smoke and vapour at source. Hand power tools should be fitted with dust bags and used in well-ventilated areas. Work areas should be well ventilated. They should be cleaned at least daily, and dust removed by vacuum cleaning or wet sweeping method.
Personal Protection:	Wear loose, comfortable clothing. Long-sleeved shirts/trousers are recommended to prevent skin irritation. After handling boards, wash with mild soap and water. Do not scratch or rub the skin if it becomes irritated.
Skin Protection:	Wash work clothes regularly and separately from other clothes. Comfortable work gloves, conforming to Australian Standards AS 2161 <i>Industrial safety gloves and mittens</i> , should be worn.
Eye Protection:	Industrial safety glasses or non-fogging goggles conforming to Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 1336 <i>Recommended practices for occupational eye protection</i> , should be worn if there is a risk of dust getting into the eye such as when machining.
Respiratory Protection:	Avoid breathing dust, smoke or vapour. A class P1 or P2 replaceable filter or disposable half face-piece respirator should be worn when machining, heat-pressing or laser cutting. Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 1715 <i>Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Devices</i> and AS/NZS 1716 <i>Respiratory Protective Devices</i> should be followed in the selection, fit-testing, use, storage and maintenance of the respirators.
Flammability:	The boards are flammable but difficult to ignite. Fine airborne dust can ignite so avoid build-up of dust and keep all storage and work areas well ventilated. Avoid sources of radiant heat and flame; and avoid sparks and sources of ignition in all electrical equipment, including dust extraction equipment. People must not smoke in storage or work areas.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage and Transport:	Boards should be stored in well-ventilated areas away from sources of heat, flame or sparks. No special transport requirements are considered necessary.
Spills and disposal:	Off-cuts and general waste material should be placed in containers and disposed of at approved disposal facilities, or burnt in an approved furnace or incinerator, in accordance with disposal authority guidelines. Dust from the boards should be removed by vacuuming or wet sweeping.
Fire/explosion hazard:	Burning or smouldering boards or dust can generate carbon dioxide and other pyrolysis products typical of burning organic material. Use water or dry foam fire extinguishers and avoid breathing smoke from burning or smouldering material. Dry dusts in high concentrations can be explosive.
Smoking and Other Dust:	Inhalation of airborne particles from other sources in the work environment, including those from cigarette smoke, may increase the risk of contracting the lung disease associated with exposure to dust from this product. Australian Hardboards Limited recommends that all work and storage areas are smoke free zones and other airborne contaminants be kept to a minimum.

CONTACT POINT

For further information on this product, please contact the following:

Australian Hardboards Limited
ABN 40 088 183 420
51 Ashburn Road
Bundamba, Queensland 4305 Australia
Telephone: 1300 366 681 Facsimile: 1800 666 081

This MSDS was correct at the time it was prepared. Australian Hardboards Limited, as part of its health and safety program, updates MSDSs when ongoing review processes indicates a need for a change to be made. You should make sure that the MSDS you are reading and relying on is current.