

Wood-Look Vinyl Veneer Installation Guide

Items #260-010, 260-012, 260-014, 260-016

The following steps demonstrate one method of applying vinyl veneer. Other methods will also work and some experimentation is recommended.



1. Prepare the surface that is to receive the vinyl laminate. This includes filling any voids and thoroughly sanding the substrate. Due to its thin, flexible design, the vinyl will tend to reveal any surface imperfections. **Hint:** the lighter color laminates will tend to minimize the visibility of any imperfections.



2. Clean and dry the cabinet. Make sure to remove any and all dust from the surface. Any loose dust may cause dimples and will decrease the effectiveness of the adhesive. **Hint:** Thoroughly sealing and sanding raw MDF end-grain will help achieve good adhesion between the vinyl and the cabinet.



3. Assemble materials and supplies needed to complete vinyl installation. A standard covering can be completed with a straightedge, razor knife, scissors, and a fine point razor knife.



4. Cut the vinyl laminate to rough dimensions of your box size, leaving 1-2 inches extra in all dimensions. For quickest installation, a single piece of laminate may be used to wrap completely around the sides and top of the cabinet. This will provide seamless corners and a single seam on the bottom of the cabinet. **Hint:** Follow the grid on the rear of the vinyl to ensure straight edges, which will help in aligning grain and keeping application straight.



5. Begin affixing vinyl to cabinet. It is best to work starting from the bottom-- though good results can be achieved by other methods. If starting on the bottom, it is suggested to start in the middle of the bottom panel, working around the sides in one direction. The benefit of having the seam on the center of the bottom panel is that the seam will be in an indiscreet location and will not be subject to any snagging. **Hint:** Be careful to apply vinyl square to the cabinet edges when you start, any misalignment will be exaggerated as you work.



6. When the corners of the cabinets are reached, be sure to pull the veneer very tight as you proceed. A loose corner will end up with air bubbles or a wavy look. **Hint:** If you have an extra person available it would be helpful to have them press the vinyl down as the veneer is stretched around the corner. Also note that it is much easier to work with the vinyl if the unused portion is kept rolled up.



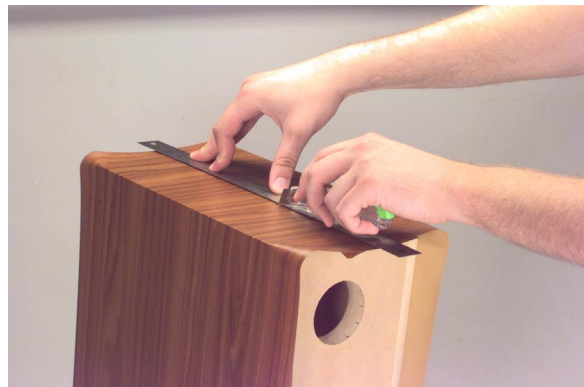
6. Slowly peel back the adhesive backing and press the vinyl onto the cabinet. Work very slowly, making sure to eliminate all air bubbles and possible errors in application. Should air become trapped under the vinyl, peel back the affected area and re-apply. Caution should be used as every time that the vinyl is re-applied, the adhesive will weaken. **Hint:** Because of the flexible nature of the veneer, it should be fairly easy to prevent air bubbles, but if necessary, use a small squeegee or finger to work air bubbles out.



8. Once the vinyl wrapping is complete, gently overlap both ends of the vinyl material.



9. Place a straightedge where the seam is desired and cut through both layers of material.



10. Remove the excess material from either side of the seam and gently press the vinyl back into place. The result should be a perfect butt joint in the covering.



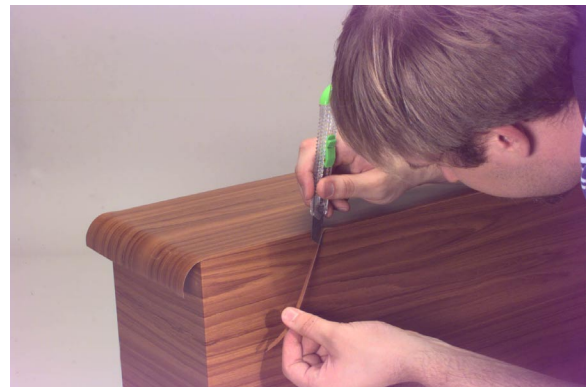
9. Trim the excess material off of the sides at the front and back using a very sharp razor knife. Be sure to hold the blade perpendicular to the front as you cut, which will ensure a straight seam. **Hint:** Holding the trimmings at the appropriate angle and tension will allow a very smooth and easy cut.



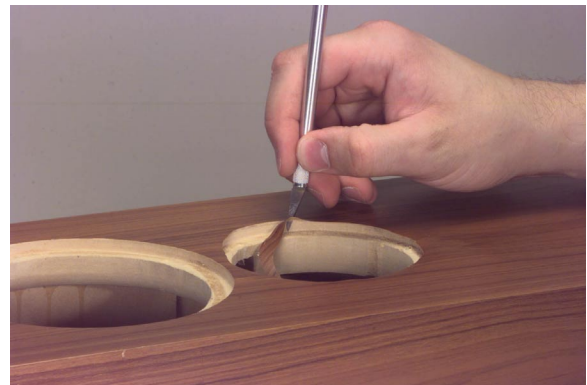
10. Once the sides have been trimmed flush, prepare to install the front and rear pieces of vinyl.



11. After the vinyl is pressed into place, trim edges using the same method as previously used. As long as the blade is held perpendicular to the workpiece, the blade should not damage the existing vinyl. **Hint:** A thin piece of tape may be placed on the side panels to prevent damage, though it will likely be found that this is not necessary.



12. Once the cabinet is completely covered, carefully trim the vinyl around the driver and terminal cutouts. The fine-point razor knife will be very handy for following the curves of the cutouts.



13. Going over the edges of MDF with a marker that matches your vinyl will help minimize the visibility of any gaps between the driver and the vinyl.



14. Install and secure drivers for a professional-looking speaker!



15. Your vinyl-covered speaker may be cleaned with a soft moistened cloth and mild detergent.



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