



Warnings

Safety should be your highest priority when working with this item. It is your responsibility to use and handle it in a safe manner and in accordance with all safety policies in the work area. Wear appropriate safety equipment including eye and ear protection while using this item.



To avoid danger of suffocation, keep this bag away from babies and children. Do not use this bag in cribs, beds, carriages or play pens. This bag is not a toy.

Brass products may contain chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity. Visit www.p65warnings.ca.gov for details.

Use of this item is at your own risk. JWW Services Inc. doing business as VeneerSupplies.com disclaims all responsibility for any resulting damage, injury or expense. For more information, please visit https://www.veneersupplies.com/pages/Legal__Information.html

The products described herein are distributed, but not manufactured, by VeneerSupplies.com.

Introduction

VS Elite™ and VS Extreme™ polyurethane are the ultimate vacuum bagging materials. The material is shipped as a "tube" of polyurethane. In other words, it has two open ends. This bag material was designed exclusively for VeneerSupplies.com using an advanced thermoplastic polyurethane that can withstand pressures exceeding 3,750+ psi and stretch more than 6 times its width and length.

The polyurethane film, bag stem, and bag closure are made in the USA.

Items Included with the Build-a-Bag Kit

1. Two bag C-closures
2. Flush mount bag stem with brass insert
3. VS Elite/Extreme™ polyurethane vacuum bag material

C-Type Bag Closure

The Build-a-Bag kit comes with two bag closures which are used to seal each end of the bag. Some users find that it is easier to load a project into a vacuum bag with the assistance of a second person who works from the opposite end of the bag and guides the project into the bag. If you have a small project or do not have someone to help, you can apply a bag closure to one end of the vacuum bag before loading the project.

The PVC C-closure system included with your vacuum bag will allow you to easily seal the bag opening. Simply roll the bag end over the PVC tube. Then snap the PVC C-channel over the bag starting from one side and working towards the opposite side.



To ensure a perfect seal, be certain that the entire bag opening is secured by the closure and that there are no wrinkles in the bag material. For additional clamping strength, you can attach spring clamps over the C-channel. This is not necessary under normal conditions, but it will provide a better seal if the bag or closure is heavily worn.

A light coat of car wax applied to the outside of the bag opening can make it easier to attach the closure.

Flush Mount Bag Stem

The flush mount bag stem allows you to use the full length of the vacuum bag without the worry of project surface damage. Carefully follow the instructions below.

1. Use a marker to identify the location on your vacuum bag where you wish to install the bag stem. For convenience, we recommend installing the stem centered on the width of the bag and 15" from the opening. The location of the stem will not affect the vacuum level inside the bag.
2. In the selected area, cut a 1/2" diameter port hole in the vacuum bag using scissors or a razor knife. The hole does not need to be perfectly round since the stem will be mounted on the outside of the bag. Be sure to avoid cutting through the bottom layer of the vacuum bag. Then place a 3" x 3" piece of wood or wax paper inside the bag directly under the hole to prevent the cement from bonding the top side to the bottom side of the bag material.
3. A small tube of cement is included with your bag stem kit. This cement will work with both vinyl and polyurethane materials. Be sure to follow the safety instructions included with the cement and wear appropriate eye, skin, and lung protection when using this product.
4. Cut a 3" x 3" scrap of 3/4" thick plywood and drill a 1" hole in the center. This will be used to press the flange onto the bag material while the cement cures.
5. In a well-ventilated area, clean the mating surfaces of the polyurethane flange body and the vacuum bag material with acetone or lacquer thinner. A synthetic abrasive pad will help maximize the effectiveness of the cleaner. When completed, the cleaned areas should look dull and abraded.
6. Fully coat the bottom of the flange with the cement and then immediately set the flange directly over the port hole in the bag and gently massage out any air bubbles. Try not to squeeze out too much of the cement.
7. Place the wood clamping block over the bag stem and verify that the flange is centered over the 1/2" diameter hole in the bag material. Then place approximately 5 to 10 lbs of weight on top of the clamping block.
8. Allow 3 hours for the cement to cure if the flange is attached to vinyl material. For polyurethane bag material, allow 24 hours of curing time.
9. After the cement has cured, remove the wood block and insert the brass barbed stem into the flange neck.

Avoid These Common Mistakes - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Extend the life of the vacuum bag by using and storing it carefully. Be sure to protect the bag from sharp edges on project panels by covering or rounding-over any areas that could cause a puncture. It is also a good idea to smooth the corners and edges of the platen boards. When you finish using the vacuum bag, store it away from direct sunlight and other UV sources such as fluorescent lighting. Be sure to remove the C-closures from the bag when not in use. This will help prevent plastic fatigue which can reduce the closure's effectiveness.

Do not allow the bag to be vacuumed into any deep openings in the project or project form. Vacuum can cause the bag to stretch into these openings and create a reverse bubble which will burst and the resulting damage will not be repairable. Use a suitable material that safely plugs these openings and prevents the bag material from going inside the project.

Breather Mesh Makes Vacuum Pressing Easier

Breather mesh is an inexpensive extruded plastic fabric that is used in a vacuum bag to allow air to flow away from the project being pressed and towards the vacuum port (bag stem). It is used in place of a top platen. Without it, the vacuum bag material can seal itself against the veneer causing pockets of air. These pockets have little or no vacuum inside and therefore do not provide enough clamping strength for veneer work. Breather mesh allows the even distribution of vacuum. This is the key to a successful vacuum pressing!



For more information visit

www.JoeWoodworker.com/veneering/breather-mesh.htm

Vacuum Bag Maintenance

In the unlikely event that your bag develops a leak, the easiest way to find it is to place a piece of brown paper in the area where you suspect there is a leak. Then place the platens inside the bag and apply the closure. Next, attach the vacuum source and turn it on. Spray the outside of the bag with water. Any holes will show up on the paper as the water is absorbed. To repair the leak, contact us for a patch kit.