

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. The products described herein are distributed by VeneerSupplies.com.



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

Included Items

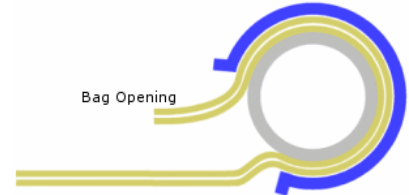
Vacuum bag, brass stem insert, bag closure, and this instruction sheet.

Preparing Your Vacuum Bag

1. Unroll the vacuum bag and locate the vacuum port which is located approximately 15 inches inward from the vacuum bag opening.
2. From the top side of the vacuum bag, insert the barbed side of the brass connector into the nipple.
3. Connect your vacuum tube to the vacuum bag with the lock-on connector available on our website.

Applying the Bag Closure

The PVC closure system included with your vacuum bag will allow you to easily seal the bag opening. Simply roll the bag opening over the PVC tube. Then snap the PVC C-channel over the bag starting from one side and working towards the opposite side. Be certain that the entire bag opening is secured by the closure and that there are no wrinkles in the bag material.



To remove the closure, start by grasping the open end of the bag material and pulling it away from the rest of the vacuum bag. This will cause the leading edge of the blue closure piece to lift off. Then pull the blue closure piece off of the bag starting at the loose end and working toward to the opposite side.

You can attach spring clamps over the C-channel for additional clamping strength. This is not necessary under normal conditions but it will provide a better seal if the bag or closure is heavily worn. For the ultimate gripping strength on polyurethane bags only, the bag material may be rolled over the white tube twice before the C-channel is attached. We do not recommend more than a double roll over the tube due to the difficulty of removing the closure under such clamping pressure.

Quick Tip: It's much easier to attach and remove the bag closure if a light coat of carnauba-based car wax is applied to the inside of the blue closure part and to the area of the bag where the closure will be attached.

Vacuum Bag Platens

Platens are typically made from 3/4" melamine board which is available at most large hardware stores. This is the ideal material for platens because it prevents the veneered panel and any excess adhesive from sticking. The bottom platen inside the vacuum bag helps keep the panel flat while the press is in use. A grooved top platen is required if breather mesh is not used. More information about breather mesh can be found on the next page. A three-inch grid pattern of 1/8" deep grooves in the top platen must be created to allow air flow out of the bag and to the vacuum source. The vacuum port on the bag must be set over one of the grooves.

Visit www.JoeWoodworker.com/veneering/platenscauls.htm for more information.

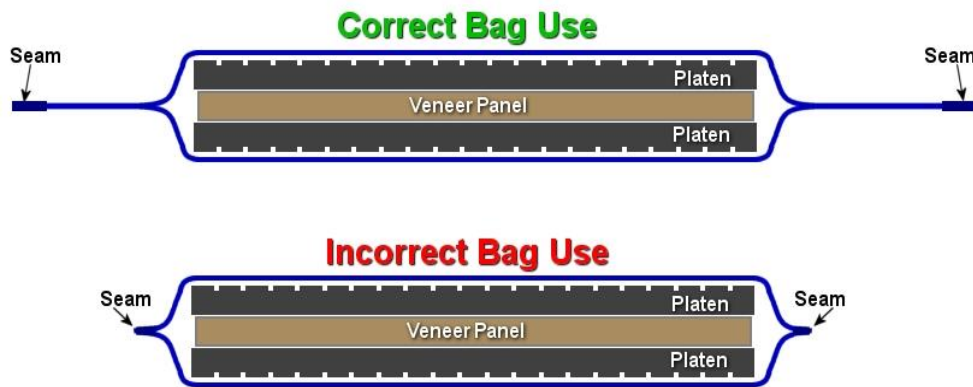
Avoid These Common Mistakes - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

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 all edges on the platen boards. When you finish using the vacuum bag, store it away from direct sunlight and other UV sources such as fluorescent lighting.

Do not allow the bag to be vacuumed into any openings (even small ones) in the project or form/mold. Vacuum can cause the bag to pull into these openings and create a reverse bubble which will burst. The resulting damage will not likely be repairable. Use a suitable material that safely covers these openings and prevents the bag material from going inside the project or form.

Vinyl Bags - During the first two or three uses, a vinyl vacuum bag may seem rigid and difficult to work with. However, you'll find that the vinyl becomes softer and more pliable with each use. Within the first ten pressings you will see and feel a noticeable increase in the bag's flexibility.

Additionally, some of our vacuum bag sizes have edge seams. The seams will surely break if they are being pulled apart by vacuum. When using an appropriately sized bag, the seams will pull together. In the first image below, you can see a small project inside a large bag. Notice that the seams actually pull together and are not stressed. In the second picture below the bag is too small for the project and the seams are being pulled apart.



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.

Making Large Bags More Convenient

It can be difficult to work with a large project in a large vacuum bag. To make the process easier, you can cut off the seam at the far end of the bag. This will allow unencumbered access to the project panel from both ends. Keep in mind that you will need a [second bag closure](#) to seal the end.