

## HIGH IMPACT POLYSTYRENE (HIPS) Mirrored Sheet

HIPS Mirrored Polystyrene mirror is a mirror faced sheet of high impact polystyrene laminated with metallised polyester foil in silver/gold or brushed (hairline).

The product is intended for indoor use and is suitable for various applications including point-of-sale display, decoration and toy manufacture. Each sheet is protected with a polyethylene masking film that should, if possible be kept in place up to final installation.

### HOW TO HANDLE & CUT HIPS MIRRORED SHEETS

PLEASE NOTE: The construction of these sheets means that great care should be taken when cutting or using them. Remember that the metallised surface is a very thin film with an even thinner metal deposit and these can be easily dislodged if not handled with care.

Consequently please bear in mind the following points when using or processing these sheets.

#### Removing Pre-mask Protective Film

To help with removing the protective film the sheets will now be produced with a little overlap of the protective foil which will make it easier to get hold of the foil and not damage the mirror foil. If the sheets are cut it is important to keep a bit of the overlap but if the overlapping has been cut off totally, **it is very important that the protective foil is removed according to the information below if not we cannot accept any claims.**

Locate thumb at one edge or near one corner and rub edge inwards to release the protective film and start it peeling back. If you cannot start the peel back easily then repeat same action on another edge. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DIG THE FILM OUT USING YOUR FINGERNAIL OR A TOOL.** If you are having difficulty starting the peel back then try using a piece of adhesive tape (Scotch or Cellotape or similar) applied to a corner, press firmly, peel back gently with the protective film.

#### Cutting

Great care must be taken when cutting the sheet due to the sensitivity of the metallised layer and film. Heat from the cutting process as well as the mechanical action of blades, especially if blunt or rough, can damage the edges, separate the components, or even weld the protective film to the PS plastic.

There are many cutting methods and we cannot recommend any particular one over any other. Customers and users should always satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the cutting method by conducting the appropriate tests prior to processing large quantities.

Typical methods employed are Guillotine, Knife or even Laser. Cutting should always be done with sharp well adjusted tooling working down into the metallised surface. Check that the finished edges are smooth and even and that the premask can be released and peeled off easily without damaging the surface.

Methods such as Milling or Sawing are not recommended since these are likely to damage the edges and compromise the component films.

#### Other Processes

We are aware of other processes such as Gluing, Bending, Forming, Printing etc. Again customers and users should satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the process initially. Always avoid contact by adhesive, solvent, inks, chemicals etc with the edges of the sheet.

These suggestions and data are based on information we believe to be reliable. They are offered in good faith, but without guarantee as conditions and methods of use are beyond our control. We recommend that the prospective user determine the suitability of our materials and suggestions before adopting them on a commercial scale.