

Wood Glues (PVA)

Frequently Asked Questions



What are the benefits of PVA glue?

PVA glue has several advantages. It is non-toxic, safe for children and easy to clean with water. It adheres well to various materials such as wood, paper, cardboard, fabric and some plastics. PVA glue also has good flexibility when it dries, which makes it ideal for projects that need strength and durability.



What does open time mean for PVA glue?

The "open time" or working time refers to the time during which glue can be applied on surfaces before gluing them together. In other words, it is the time the glue can remain exposed to air and still provide the requisite adhesion when the surfaces are joined together.



What does assembly time mean for PVA glue?

"Assembly time" refers to the amount of time the surfaces can be readjusted once they have been glued together. In other words, it is the time available to readjust two surfaces if the initial gluing is not perfect or if the application requires several components that must be readjusted once they are assembled.



Why is the VOC content listed?

"VOC Content" refers to the amount of volatile organic compounds in a product. VOCs are chemicals that can evaporate at room temperature and be a source of indoor air pollution. The labeling indicates the level of potential emissions of these substances. Products with low levels of VOCs help improve indoor air quality and reduce negative impacts on health and the environment.





What role does viscosity play in PVA glue?

Viscosity is an important factor in PVA (Polyvinyl Acetate) glue. Viscosity refers to a fluid's resistance to flow. A PVA glue with high viscosity means that the glue is thicker and more difficult to spread. It may require additional pressure or specific application techniques to ensure even distribution. A high-viscosity PVA glue is generally preferred for applications that require gap filling, strong adhesion or improved slip resistance.

However, a lower-viscosity PVA glue is more fluid and easier to spread. It can be used for applications requiring light adhesion or where you need to spread the glue thinly and evenly, such as when installing studs.



What is the solids content of PVA glue?

The solids content refers to the amount of non-volatile material present in the glue after the water has evaporated. It indicates the proportion of solid components (mainly the PVA polymer) in the total amount of glue. A higher solids content means the glue contains more solids after evaporation, which can help increase adhesion and strength. PVA glues with a high solids content tend to form stronger and stiffer bonds.



What if the PVA glue does not adhere?

Make sure the surface is clean and dry. If there is dust or dirt on the surface to be bonded, use a small amount of acetone to clean the area. Acidic surfaces (wood containing dark tannic acids, some leathers and some metals) may prevent the adhesive from curing.



How do I remove dried adhesive on the floor?

Glue removal is easier when the glue is still damp. Use water to remove water-based adhesives or mineral spirits to remove urethane-based adhesives. The best way to remove dried adhesive from the surface of a wooden floor depends on the adhesive used. While most dried-on adhesives can be removed with mineral spirits, hardened polyurethane-based adhesives are difficult to remove from a floor surface. Test the products you are using on a surplus piece of hardwood flooring to make sure they are compatible with the hardwood floor finish.