

YEAR 7 RM HOMEWORK: MATERIALS (PINE, MDF & PLYWOOD)

Name	Natural or Man-made?	Where is it from?	How is it made?	Finishes	Advantages	Disadvantages
PINE 	Natural	Coniferous trees (trees that keep their leaves all year round)	Fast-growing trees are cut down. Long planks of Pine are then cut from the trunk.	Pine can be waxed or varnished so you can still see the grain. You can also paint it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheap to buy • Looks nice • Easy to cut and sand • Pine trees grow quickly so it doesn't take too long to replace them when you cut them down 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knots (black bits where the branches grown) are not very nice to look at • Splinters can be a problem • Dents easily • Can only get it 165mm wide
MDF 	Man-Made	Recycled sawdust from wood factories	The recycled sawdust is mixed with glue and then pressed into big sheets. It comes in different thicknesses.	Because MDF looks like cardboard we have to paint it. We would then varnish the paint to protect it and to make it shiny (gloss varnish) or semi-shiny (silk varnish)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairly cheap to buy • Really easy to cut and sand • No splinters • Nice smooth surface for painting • Comes in a range of thicknesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks horrible like brown cardboard • Dust can be dangerous • Not always very strong
PLYWOOD 	Man-Made	Normally from Pine trees with a different tree used for the nicer looking outside pieces (veneer)	Lots of layers of very thin wood are glued (laminated) together. A nicer piece is put on the front and back to make it look better.	Plywood is waxed or varnished so you can still see the stripes of wood on the side and the nice natural wood effect on the top and bottom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks nice • Stripes on the side make it look unique • Very strong • Can be bent into curvy shapes • Comes in a range of thicknesses • Can buy massive sheets of it • User can choose which wood to have on the outsides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be very expensive compared to MDF & Pine • Splinters when cutting or drilling • Have to be careful when sanding

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MDF 		Recycled sawdust from wood factories		Because MDF looks like cardboard we have to paint it. We would then varnish the paint to protect it and to make it shiny (gloss varnish) or semi-shiny (silk varnish)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks horrible like brown cardboard • Dust can be dangerous • Not always very strong
PLYWOOD 	Man-Made	Normally from Pine trees with a different tree used for the outside (veneer) pieces			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looks nice • Stripes on the side make it look unique • Very strong • Can be bent into curvy shapes • Comes in a range of thicknesses • Can buy massive sheets of it • User can choose which wood to have on the outsides 	

1) With the help of the table above and your experience in class, can you give 2 reasons why plywood is used for the front of your photo frame? You must explain your answer.

Plywood is used because

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2) Can you give 2 reasons why we use MDF to make the back of the photo frame?

MDF is used because

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