

PLYWOOD

- ① **Plywood** is a large sheet of wood, usually 1.2 metres X 2.4 metres, made from wood or wood products. It comes in many thicknesses and many grades of quality.
- ② **Veneer** plywood is made from several layers of **thinly cut sheets of wood** glued together. The grain of these layers are glued together 90 degrees to each other. Because of this criss-crossing of grain, veneer plywood is *extremely strong and does not split*. **Veneer plywoods** are used extensively in the **construction industry**.
- ③ **Composite** plywoods are made from either **wood chips** or **wood flour** mixed with plastic resins heated and pressed together to form large sheets also 1.2 metres X 2.4 metres in size. Composite plywoods do not have the strength of veneer plywoods but are usually **smoother** and more **suitable for interior usage** such as furniture and cabinets.
- ④ Plywood has changed the wood working industries because of its **strength** and its **ability to cover large surfaces quickly and easily**.
- ⑤ Sheets of plywood come from the manufacturers with perfectly straight edges and square corners. These edges are known as the '**factory edge**'.
- ⑥ Plywoods can be obtained with either **one good face, 1GS** or **two good faces, 2GS**. When cutting plywood on a table saw the **good face**, or the face you intend to finish, **should be up** as the bottom face will splinter.