

# A sustainable foundation for your kitchen: Minus® panels

Minus® material is made from 100% recycled polystyrene. To ensure your kitchen countertop serves you as long as possible and stays looking like new, we have prepared this summary of properties and care guidelines.

## 1. Aesthetics and Uniqueness of the Material

- **Every piece is an original:** Our panels are produced from recycled plastic. Please expect minor color deviations from samples—these are proof of the material's authentic origin.
- **Thickness tolerance:** The standard tolerance is +/- 1 mm. We take this deviation into account during the design and installation of your kitchen.
- **UV stability:** If panels are exposed to direct sunlight (e.g., near windows), the material may slightly change its hue over time due to UV radiation, acquiring a natural patina.

## 2. Daily Care and Cleaning

Thanks to its non-absorbent properties, it does not promote the growth of bacteria or mold, is easy to wash, and is certified for contact with food.

- **Routine maintenance:** Use a soft microfiber cloth or a gentle sponge with lukewarm water and a pH-neutral detergent (e.g., dish soap).
- **Streak removal:** Always wipe the surface dry after cleaning. To prevent static electricity, it is better to wipe dust with a damp cloth rather than a dry one.
- **Stubborn stains:** For grease, use a common degreaser suitable for plastics. For dried-on dirt, a mild cream cleaner without abrasive particles can be used (always test it on a less visible area first).



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## 3. What to Avoid (Critical Warnings)

- **Temperature limit 70–80 °C:** Polystyrene begins to deform at higher temperatures. Hot pots, baking trays, or even cups with very hot drinks should always be placed on a trivet.
- **Aggressive chemicals:** Never use acetone, thinners, gasoline, bleach, or cleaners with an alcohol content above 70%. These substances can permanently damage the surface, causing matting or cracking (crazing).
- **Mechanical damage:** Avoid steel wool, the rough side of sponges, and abrasive scouring powders. Always use a cutting board—direct cutting with a knife will scratch the surface.

## 4. Technical Information and Installation

- **Standard thickness:** 20 mm. A 12 mm variant is only possible with full-surface support (e.g., a chipboard base).
- **Caution during installation:** Boards must not be pre-drilled using excessive force, as this may cause cracking. Always follow our Installation Manual.
- **Storage:** Always store panels flat on a level surface.
- **Protection during construction:** Never walk on the panels in shoes—pebbles trapped in soles could scratch the surface before the kitchen is even finished.



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## 5. Renovation: The "Superpower" of Minus® Panels

One of the greatest advantages of our panels is their full-volume repairability:

- **Minor scratches:** These can be removed by wet hand-sanding using sandpaper with very fine grit (P600 to P1200).
- **Restoring shine:** After sanding, the surface can be polished with a plastic polishing paste and a soft buffing wheel. The countertop will look brand new again.

