

Aalto Tables

Design: Alvar Aalto, 1935



SUSTAINABILITY

Made from birch harvested from Finland's forests, every one of Alvar Aalto's tables is as unique as the tree from which it came.

Finland's forests are an important element of the country's identity. They cover nearly two thirds of its total land area, are partially owned by one in five Finnish families, and are incorporated into the curriculum of the nation's schools. Thanks to intelligent management dating back more than a century, these forests are actually growing in size, rather than being depleted.

Artek keeps up the good work in its factory with the economical use of materials and a heating system fueled by wood waste. The particular beauty of Finnish wood derives in part from the slow tree growth characteristic of mixed forests, which renders their trunks particularly dense. Those used by Artek are about eighty years old, making the material of the products manufactured in 2015 roughly the same age as the company itself.

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MATERIALS

SOLID WOOD, VENEER, PLYWOOD

Wood is a renewable, natural raw material. All solid birch wood, veneers and plywood used for the Aalto Tables is coming from well-managed Finnish forests close to our factory and is FSC-certified.

CHIPBOARD

Flat press boards or chipboards are engineered woods manufactured from by applying heat and pressure to a mix of wood chips and synthetic resin adhesive. Resins of varying compositions are the most commonly used adhesive means. Chipboard panels are lighter than medium density fibreboard panels.

All the wood products used by Artek satisfy the emission category E1 and therefore emit less than 0.1 ppm formaldehyde.

ADHESIVES

Aalto Table legs are made of solid birchwood. Adhesives are only scarcely used in the bend area of the L-leg. As well as for bonding the 5 layers and the solid wood internal frame and solid wood edge of the table top.

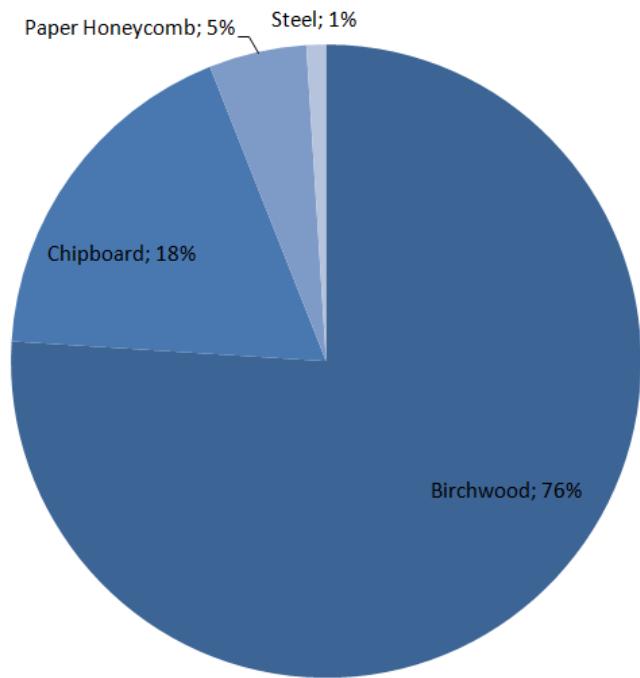
COATING

Artek uses only water based (VOC-free) lacquers for the Aalto Tables.

STEEL is a stable compound of iron and carbon with various added alloys. At the end of the product life cycle, steel components can be melted down and completely recycled.

LINOLEUM is a natural material made from raw materials such as linseed oil, pine resin, ground cork dust, wood flour and mineral fillers. Our linoleum is made in Europe and all of its components are fully REACH compliant.

LAMINATES also HPLs (high pressure laminates) are sheets consisting of layers of cellulose fibrous material impregnated with thermosetting resins and bonded



Materials used in Table 90B version: natural birch with birch veneered table top. (percentage varies slightly depending on table top size)

together in a high pressure process. More than 60% of the HPL consists of paper and the remaining 30 to 40% consists of thermosetting resins are irreversibly interreacted through cross linked chemical bonds formed during the curing process producing a non-reactive, stable material. Formaldehyde emission of HPL according to producer: < 0.4 mg/h m² (tested according to EN 717-2) < 0.05 ppm (tested according to EN 717-1 (WKI chamber method))

RECYCLABILITY

Solid wood and engineered wood can be used thermally to generate energy or can be crushed and recycled as materials into new engineered wood materials. Due to the high content of pure natural materials emissions are very low.

PROPORTION OF RECYCLED MATERIAL

Aalto Tables contain <2% recycled material.

PACKAGING

Tables will be delivered disassembled and flat packed in corrugated cardboard boxes.

This results in lower freight volume for further savings in fuel and emissions.