



SPECIFIER REFERENCE · M-BOSSED PTY LTD

COATING GUIDE

A complete reference to finishing embossed timber panels — factory finishing, paints, stains and clears for architects, interior designers, and specifiers.

01 How to Specify a Finish

02 M-Bossed Finishing Service

03 Painted Finishes

04 Clear, Stains & Oils

05 Fire & Wet Areas

06 Application Guide

01 HOW TO SPECIFY A FINISH

Every M-Bossed panel is supplied raw as standard – any finish must be specified at order

THREE FINISHING PATHS

RECOMMENDED

1 – Factory Finished by M-Bossed

Specify the finish at order and M-Bossed applies the complete system in-house – coating, stain or custom effect. Panels arrive ready to fix. The recommended path for deep patterns and commercial programs.

SITE APPLIED

2 – Raw, Site Finished

Panels ship raw for your painter or joiner to prime and coat. Works for shallower patterns and projects where colour decisions come late – see the Application Guide first.

NATURAL

3 – Raw, Left Natural

Plywood, spruce and solid timber substrates can run raw or with a single clear coat for a pure timber look. Uncoated panels mark and absorb ambient moisture – one matt clear coat is cheap insurance.

SHEEN & COLOUR

What Reads Best on the Impression

Matt and low sheen flatter the embossed impression – the pattern reads through shadow, not glare. Dark colours are moody and architectural; light colours show fine detail. Specify gloss only with spray application.

QUICK SELECTOR

You want...	Substrate	Finish system	Best path
A painted colour (most common)	MDF / FJ Pine	Water-based acrylic, low sheen, sprayed	Factory finished
High-traffic commercial durability	MDF / MR MDF	2-pac polyurethane	Factory / joinery
Natural timber look	Ply / Spruce / Veneer	Water-based clear polyurethane, matt	Factory or raw
Warm / aged timber tone	Ply / Pine / Solid	Stain + clear, or hardwax oil	Factory finished
Fire-rated interior lining	FR MDF	Thin-film system verified against cert	Factory finished
Bathroom / laundry / kitchen	MR MDF	Full 6-face seal + washable topcoat	Factory finished
Colour decided late on site	Any painted substrate	Raw supply, coated per Application Guide	Site finished

M-BOSSED RECOMMENDATION

If the pattern is Rough Cut or Scorched, or the project is commercial, specify factory finishing. A deep impression rewards controlled spray application – and punishes anything less.

02 M-BOSSED FINISHING SERVICE

The complete system from start to finish – emboss, prime, coat, stain or custom finish, under one roof

IN-HOUSE

Full Coating Service

Prime and topcoat in your specified colour and sheen, spray applied in controlled conditions. From single feature walls to full commercial fitout quantities.

IN-HOUSE

Stains

Interior timber stains in your chosen tone, sealed with matt or satin clear. On embossed texture, stain settles deeper in the recesses – a two-tone effect that makes the pattern pop.

IN-HOUSE

Custom Finishes

Colour matching to your schedule, whitewash and limewash effects, two-tone treatments, clears over natural substrates. If you can spec it, talk to us about pressing and finishing it as one job.

SAMPLES

Finished Samples Before You Commit

We supply embossed samples in your specified pattern, substrate and finish for approval – the only reliable way to judge a finish on a deep impression. Never approve off a flat offcut.

WHY FACTORY FINISH?

A Crisper Impression

Deep patterns are unforgiving of rollers and heavy coats. In-house spray application puts an even film into every recess without bridging or rounding the emboss – the pattern arrives as crisp as it left the press.

Simpler on Site

No painter coordination, no masking, no overspray, no curing between trades. Panels arrive finished; the installer fixes them and moves on. One supplier, one point of responsibility for the whole panel.

HOW TO SPECIFY

M-BOSSED [PATTERN & CODE] ON [SUBSTRATE] – FACTORY FINISHED: [SYSTEM, COLOUR/STAIN, SHEEN]

Example: M-Bossed Rough Cut (MB-RCT) on MR MDF – factory finished: water-based acrylic, Dulux Domino, matt.

M-BOSSED RECOMMENDATION

Include the finish in the same specification line as the pattern and substrate. One line, one order, one supplier – and the panel that arrives is the panel you approved.

03 PAINTED FINISHES

The workhorse specification – painted systems over raw MDF and FJ Pine, factory or site applied

RESIDENTIAL · RETAIL · HOSPITALITY

System 1 – Water-Based Acrylic

Premium interior acrylic in matt or low sheen. Fast recoat, low odour, easy touch-up – the default for wall lining.

- Prime first: raw MDF needs a dedicated MDF sealer/undercoat over the full face and all edges (skip if ordered factory primed)
- Light scuff sand between coats – 240 grit flexible pad, follow the pattern, don't flatten it
- 2 topcoats, sprayed – airless fine-finish tip or HVLP
- Re-seal any site cut-outs before topcoating

COMMERCIAL · JOINERY · HIGH TRAFFIC

System 2 – 2-Pac Polyurethane

For reception walls, lift lobbies, bar fronts and joinery doors that get touched, knocked and cleaned constantly. Sprayed over a 2-pac primer – by M-Bossed in-house or in your joiner's booth.

- Hardest wearing painted finish – superior scratch, scuff and chemical resistance
- Any sheen from dead matt to full gloss – matt 2-pac on Rough Cut is a standout commercial look
- Fix as finished panels to protect the coating

COATS & FILM BUILD BY PATTERN

Pattern	Texture	Max system	Watch for
American Oak (MB-AOK)	Medium, organic grain	Primer + 2 topcoats	Filling of fine grain lines
Rough Cut (MB-RCT)	Deep, sawn texture	Primer + 2 thin sprayed coats	Bridging across grooves – spray only
Scorched (MB-SCH)	Deep, charred character	Primer + 2 thin sprayed coats	Pooling in low points
Diamond (MB-DMD)	Medium geometric	Primer + 2 topcoats	Rounding of crisp facet edges
Checkers (MB-CKR)	Medium geometric	Primer + 2 topcoats	Rounding of crisp edges
Matrix (MB-MTX)	Linear geometric	Primer + 2 topcoats	Runs along channels – cross passes

M-BOSSSED RECOMMENDATION

Every coat softens the emboss slightly. Primer plus two well-applied topcoats is the sweet spot – if a colour needs more coverage, use a tinted undercoat rather than a third topcoat.

04 CLEAR, STAINS & OILS

For plywood, spruce, veneer and solid timber – where the timber itself is the hero

KEEPS TIMBER PALE

Water-Based Clear Polyurethane

Non-yellowing, keeps ply and spruce close to their raw colour. Matt or satin, 2-3 thin sprayed coats. The go-to for Scandi and Japandi palettes.

WARMS & AMBERS

Oil-Based / Solvent Clear

Deepens the timber to a golden tone and continues to amber over time. Specify deliberately for warmth – not by default.

DESIGN FEATURE

Whitewash / Limewash Effect

Diluted white stain wiped back before clear coating sits in the recesses and picks the pattern out in two tones. Striking on Rough Cut and American Oak. Always sample first.

TWO-TONE EFFECT

Stain + Clear

Stain in the chosen tone, then 2 coats of matt clear. On emboss, stain pools darker in recesses, accentuating the pattern. Dark stains on Scorched are a natural pairing with the charred aesthetic.

SOLID TIMBER · VENEER · PREMIUM

Hardwax Oils

Penetrating oils give a tactile, matt, close-to-timber feel with near-zero film build – the purist's finish. Two thin applications, buffed off. Spot-repairable. Keep to dry, low-splash areas.

LIMITED SITUATIONS

Raw / Uncoated

Possible for low-touch feature ceilings and display walls, but uncoated panels mark and absorb moisture. A single matt clear coat is cheap insurance.

FINISH BEHAVIOUR COMPARED

Finish	Film build	Emboss crispness	Durability	Repairability
Hardwax oil	None (penetrating)	Maximum	Moderate	Excellent
Stain + WB clear	Low	Excellent	Good	Moderate
WB acrylic paint	Medium	Good (2 coats)	Good	Easy touch-up
2-pac polyurethane	Medium	Good (sprayed)	Excellent	Shop recoat

M-BOSSSED RECOMMENDATION

Clear coats read differently on an impression – recesses hold more product and finish deeper in tone, enhancing the pattern. Always approve on an embossed sample, never a flat offcut.

05 FIRE & WET AREAS

Coatings can support – or undermine – fire and moisture ratings. Two rules cover 90% of it.

FIRE-RATED PROJECTS – FR MDF

VERIFY BEFORE SPECIFYING

The Rating Belongs to the Tested System

Fire hazard properties for interior linings are assessed to AS 5637.1 (Group 1–3) and the rating belongs to the tested system – substrate plus coating. A heavy or unverified coating over FR MDF can change the surface's fire behaviour.

- Confirm which coating types and film builds the substrate certification covers, or specify a coating certified by its manufacturer for Group-rated linings
- Thin-film water-based acrylic systems are the most commonly accepted approach – another reason “two thin sprayed coats” is the M-Bossed default
- Fire-retardant clear coatings exist for natural-look fire projects – specialist products, confirm against the required Group number
- M-Bossed can supply substrate documentation for your fire engineer or certifier – just ask

SCOPE

Interior Products

M-Bossed panels are interior linings. BAL ratings under AS 3959 apply to external building elements in bushfire zones and are outside the scope of these products.

WET & HUMID AREAS – MR MDF

BATHROOMS · LAUNDRIES · KITCHENS

Three Rules for Moisture

MR MDF handles humidity; the coating's job is to seal the surface so steam and splashes never reach raw fibre.

- Seal all six faces – face, back and all four edges, including every site cut-out for GPOs, taps and fixtures, before installation
- Use a washable topcoat – low-sheen washable acrylic minimum; semi-gloss or 2-pac where regular wipe-downs are expected
- Keep panels out of the splash zone – walls above vanities, powder rooms and feature walls, not inside showers or direct water contact

M-BOSSSED RECOMMENDATION

For fire and wet-area projects, specify factory finishing and tell us the compliance requirement – we'll match the coating system to the certification and seal all six faces before dispatch.

06 APPLICATION GUIDE

For projects finishing raw panels on site – hand this page to whoever holds the gun

OR SKIP ALL OF THIS

We Finish In-House, Start to Finish

M-Bossed offers the complete system under one roof: emboss, prime, coat, stain or custom finish, in controlled spray-booth conditions. Specify at order and panels arrive ready to fix – see Section 02.

METHOD BY PATTERN

Method	AOK	RCT	SCH	DMD	CKR	MTX	Notes
Airless spray (fine-finish tip)	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Best	Even film into every recess – the professional standard
HVLP spray	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Great control for small areas and touch-ups
Short-nap roller (5mm microfibre)	Care	No	No	Care	Care	Care	Bridges deep texture; back-brush recesses immediately
Brush	TU	TU	TU	TU	TU	TU	Cutting-in and repairs only – brush marks show on texture

TU = touch-ups only

SPRAY TECHNIQUE ON EMBOSSSED TEXTURE

- 1 Thin, multiple passes beat one heavy coat.** Heavy passes pool in recesses and round off edges.
- 2 Cross-hatch your passes.** One pass with the pattern, one across it – essential on Matrix and Rough Cut.
- 3 Angle into deep texture.** Hold the gun at a slight angle on Rough Cut and Scorched to reach undercut detail.
- 4 Sand with flexible pads only.** 240–320 grit sponge pads follow the texture; hard blocks flatten the high points.
- 5 Check in raking light.** Run a work light along the wall between coats – defects show in grazing light first.

SITE CONDITIONS

Before Coating

- Acclimatise panels on site 48 hours before fixing, laid flat
- Coat at 10–30°C, out of direct sun, dust controlled
- Seal raw cut edges the same day they're cut

Fix-First or Finish-First?

- Finish-first: best quality control; protect faces in transport, use concealed or colour-matched fixings
- Fix-first: fill and coat fixings invisibly; mask adjacent finishes well – spray goes everywhere

M-BOSSED RECOMMENDATION

If your painter has never coated deeply embossed panels, order a finished sample and a raw offcut together – let them trial on the offcut before the wall.

M-BOSSED

EMBOSSED TIMBER PANELS | GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA

**SPECIFY A FINISH, REQUEST SAMPLES
& FIND ALL TECHNICAL RESOURCES AT:**

www.m-bossed.com.au

Finish specification · Finished samples · TDS & SDS · Fire certificates · Installation guides
All available free — no registration required.

NEED HELP SPECIFYING?

Panels are supplied raw as standard. Talk to us before ordering — we'll confirm the right substrate, recommend a finish system for your pattern, and quote factory finishing.

AMERICAN OAK · ROUGH CUT · SCORCHED · DIAMOND · CHECKERS · MATRIX

DESIGNED TO IMPRESS