



am-clad
premium cladding systems

THERMOFORMING GUIDE

FOR **AM-CLAD** AND **AM-GUARD** PVC SHEETS

The benefits of thermoforming

Thermoforming PVC sheets around corners and recesses allows you to heat and shape the cladding to achieve a perfect fit. It also ensures there are no vulnerable seams or joints located at external or internal corners. This prevents **damage to the seams** and also stops the **build-up of harmful germs** and bacteria in areas that are hard to clean.

A spacious, safe and clean work area is required when using a Thermoformer. The Thermoformer should be set on a stable workbench. Ideally, the Thermoformer supports should be recessed into the bench so that the heater top of the Thermoformer is level with the top of the bench. This allows the panel to be laid across the heat source while thermoforming and ensures an even distribution of heat along the full length of the sheet's bend line.

Alternatively, you can use saw horses to set up the Thermoformer using separate metal stands.

How to thermoform

- (i) Carefully measure and mark each end of the PVC sheet where the bend line will be.
- (ii) When the Thermoformer has heated up, slide the sheet onto the Thermoformer lining up the marks with the centre of the element.
- (iii) Hold the PVC sheet down firmly gripping the straight edge until the sheet becomes pliable (ready to be bent into shape).
- (iv) Slide the sheet back onto the work bench (away from the Thermoformer) and fold the sheet fully back on itself for around 5 seconds to set the bend required.
- (v) Gripping the edge of the sheet, hold the bend in the required position for 30 seconds to allow it to cool and set.

Technical Information

Thermoformers are approximately 3400mm long x 155mm wide x 85mm deep | They bend PVC sheets between 2mm and 4mm thick and up to 3050mm long. | They have stainless steel fixings throughout. They feature:

3mm Aluminium framing for lightweight protection | An 8mm diameter incoloy sheathed heating element (1500w x 110 volt) which creates radius bends. | Full heat-resistant insulation and sealed electrical wiring. A 110-volt female socket for use with 110-volt lead and transformer.

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