
Subject: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [lon](#) on Sun, 15 Oct 2006 16:58:36 GMT

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Home Depot has 'cabinet grade plywood on a skid on some deal(forget the price exactly.) What is it and what's a good deal on a sheet?

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Sun, 15 Oct 2006 22:21:32 GMT

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Yeah, we've had that off and on for a few years @ \$25-\$30. It's Chinese, the quality of the grain varies but the construction is first rate. I've used a lot of it. If you really want a good deal, look for the top or bottom piece in the bunk which will always have indentations from the banding. Ask for a \$10 (at least) discount. And if you see delamination on the edges, cut well away from it. That is it's weakness.

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [lon](#) on Mon, 16 Oct 2006 01:13:48 GMT

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Ok. I don't build often so a lot of deals slide by. The best stuff I saw at HD was oak one side, maple the other. Never saw that but once.

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [gfederys](#) on Mon, 16 Oct 2006 18:45:49 GMT

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It depends how good of a grade you're looking for and how important the finish is to you. Personally, anything I've bought or saw @ Home Depot as far as "Cabinet Grade" was lame @ best. Find a reputable wood store in the hood, and go take a look @ a good sheet of Baltic Birch or cabinet grade plywood to see what I mean. It will cost you more than Home Depot for sure.

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Tue, 17 Oct 2006 00:33:34 GMT

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Yup. Every bigish city has a distributor or three that sells to cabinet shops. They generally have laminates, cabinet hardware, paper-backed veneer and hardwood plywood. GP and Weyerhaeuser are just 2 of the names that have Walnut and oak for around \$90, cherry and mahogany a bit more and even exotics. I bought 'Chinese Walnut' out of Columbus from DSI for \$52 a sheet which is quite nice. Good quality hardwood plywood and iron-on veneer edge-banding make using solid wood a waste of time and resources, at least for large speakers.

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [gfrederys](#) on Tue, 17 Oct 2006 11:36:56 GMT

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I always get confused on the solid wood issue. Some say it's a no-no because of resonances and ringing, others seem to use and like it just fine.

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [lon](#) on Tue, 17 Oct 2006 15:37:55 GMT

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Thanks for the replies. I just figured that cabinet grade (cheapo stuff from HD) might have less of the annoying "there's some plywood" figuring in the panels. One thing I found that should be more stable is those glued up panels at Menards (in the Midwest USA). They look like butcher block so I suppose it depends on how Dutchy your decor is.

Subject: Re: An uncraftsman question-- Cabinet grade plywood

Posted by [gfrederys](#) on Tue, 17 Oct 2006 17:08:54 GMT

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IMO the pricier stuff has better glue between the laminates, not as many voids, doesn't splinter like the bargain brand, and has a harder, more solid feel to it. Again it's up to the individual what you're using it for and what you want to spend.
