



FREE GUIDE · OCTOBER 2026

Material Quality Checklist

Boards, finishes, hardware, stone, ceiling, wiring and paint — what to ask for and how to verify

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01 Plywood & boards

- ☐ **Pick the right grade for the room** **IS 303 · IS 710**
MR (IS 303) for dry rooms only · BWR (IS 303) for kitchens and humid areas · BWP / marine (IS 710) under sinks, in bathrooms and on balconies.
- ☐ **Check the full ISI marking on the board** **BIS**
ISI mark + IS number + CM/L licence number. A plain 'ISI' sticker without a licence number is a red flag.
- ☐ **Verify the CM/L licence number**
Look it up on the BIS Care app or the BIS website before the board is used.
- ☐ **Look at a cut edge**
Layers should be even and void-free. Gaps, overlaps or a patched core mean a weaker board.
- ☐ **Confirm thickness with a vernier**
Carcass and shutters typically 18 mm — check against the BOQ.
- ☐ **Ask for a boil test on any 'marine' claim** **IS 1734**
An IS 303 board sold as marine fails the boiling-water test (IS 1734 method).
- ☐ **Use HDHMR or MDF in the right places**
HDHMR resists moisture better than MDF and suits shutters; standard MDF belongs in dry areas only.
- ☐ **Ask about formaldehyde emissions** **IS/ISO 12460-1**
India has no mandatory limit — ask for an E1/E0 test report to IS/ISO 12460-1 if indoor air quality matters to you.

02 Laminates, finishes & edges

- ☐ **1 mm decorative laminate on visible faces** **IS 2046**
With 0.6–0.8 mm liner laminate inside so the board stays balanced and doesn't warp.
- ☐ **Brand and design code printed on the back**
Match it with your approved sample and the BOQ.
- ☐ **Acrylic and PU finishes**
Even gloss with no orange-peel texture, bubbles or dust specks; the same shade across all shutters.
- ☐ **Edge banding on every exposed edge**
Colour-matched, flush to the touch, with no gaps, glue lines or lifting.
- ☐ **Insides finished too**
No raw board visible inside units and no sawdust left behind.

03 Hardware & accessories

- ☐ **Brand and model exactly as per the BOQ**
Hinges, channels and lift-ups are where substitutions most often happen — check the embossed brand.

☐ **Soft-close hinges with 3-way adjustment**

Doors close gently and can be re-aligned later without new holes.

☐ **Full-extension drawer channels with a stated load rating**

Ask for the rated load and test with weight — a 20 kg load test is a common check.

☐ **SS 304 baskets and sink**

304 (18% chromium, 8% nickel) resists corrosion better than 202 — get the grade in writing.

☐ **Handles fixed firmly with no sharp edges**

04 Countertops & stone

☐ **Thickness**

Granite and quartz come in 20 mm and 30 mm. 30 mm is self-supporting; 20 mm usually needs a full support base.

☐ **Joints and edges**

Seams tight and colour-matched, edges polished, rounded inner corners at hob and sink cut-outs.

☐ **Level and sealed**

Check with a spirit level; the silicone bead at the wall should be continuous and neat.

05 Ceiling, electrical & paint

☐ **Gypsum boards to IS 2095 IS 2095**

Moisture-resistant (Type W) boards near kitchens and bathrooms — they resist humidity but are not waterproof.

☐ **FRLS wiring with the ISI mark IS 694**

Ask your electrician for the circuit plan and wire size for lights, sockets and AC/geyser circuits.

☐ **Earthing and a labelled MCB board**☐ **Low-VOC paint: putty, primer and two coats**

Ask for the paint brand and product name in the BOQ.

☐ **Toughened glass for shelves and shutters IS 2553**

RESEARCH & SOURCES

- Greenply — essential checks for ISI-marked plywood — <https://www.greenply.com/blogs/is-it-isi-marked-essential-checks-for-buying-authentic-plywood-in-india>
- IS 303 general-purpose plywood (summary) — <https://infralens.in/code/IS-303>
- IS 710 marine plywood (summary) — <https://infralens.in/code/IS-710>
- Greenply — plywood vs MDF vs HDHMR — <https://www.greenply.com/blogs/plywood-vs-mdf-vs-hdhmr-which-board-is-best-for-furniture-interiors>
- Ply Reporter — formaldehyde emission standards in India — <https://plyreporter.com/article/71631/current-issue>
- MaterialDepot — 1 mm decorative laminate — <https://materialdepot.com/qna/what-is-1mm-decorative-laminate-used-for>
- Ruhe — 202 vs 304 stainless steel — <https://dealers.ruheindia.com/blogs/blog/what-is-the-basic-difference-between-202-grade-and-304-grade-stainless-steel-sinks>
- Slabwise — quartz countertop thickness — <https://slabwise.com/guides/quartz-countertop-thickness>
- IS 2095 gypsum plaster boards (summary) — <https://infralens.in/code/IS-2095>

General guidance for homeowners. Your project agreement and warranty card set the exact terms of your project.

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