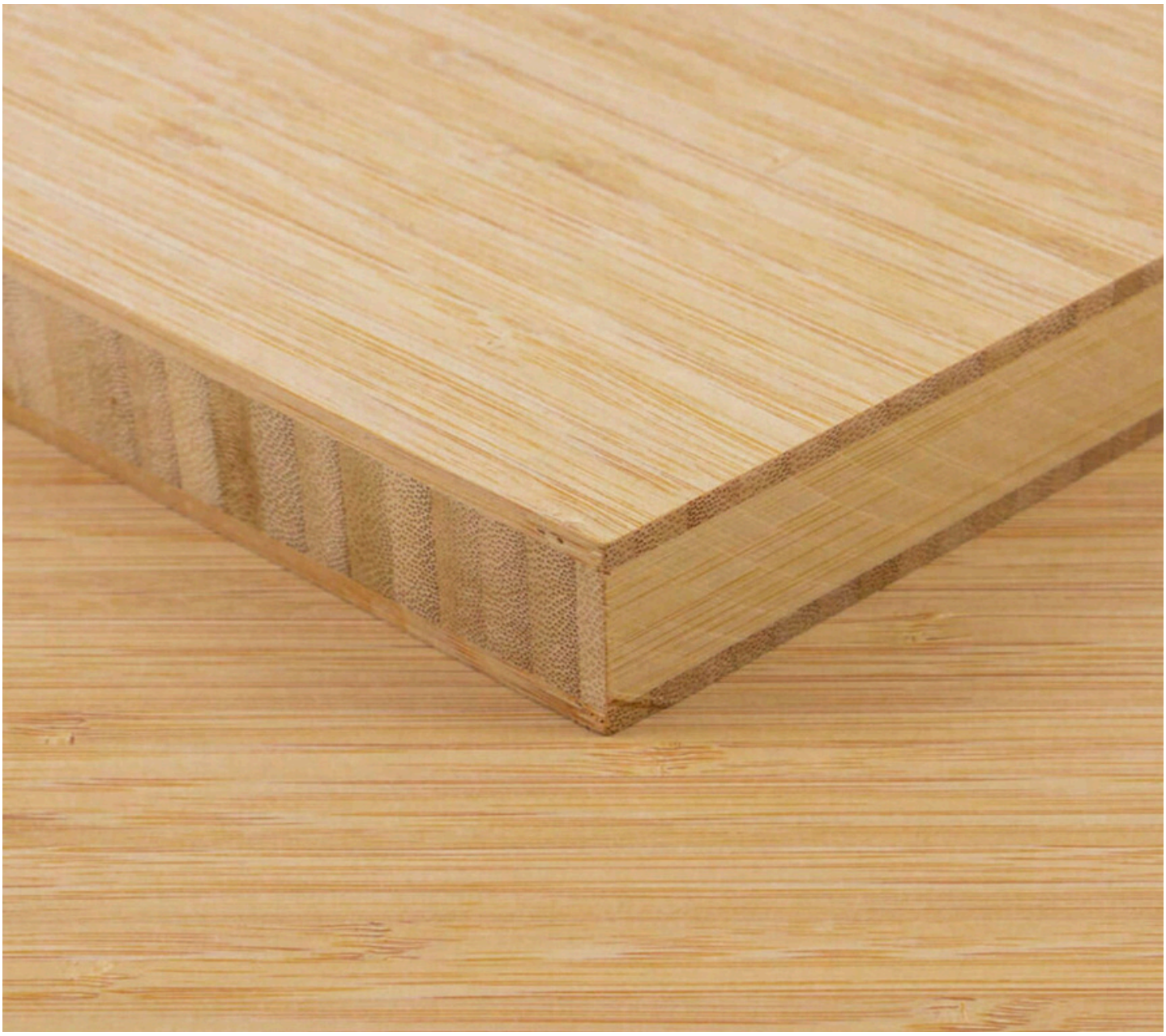
UK BAMBOO

Supplies Limited



Specification Sheet:

Bamboo Boards & Veneers

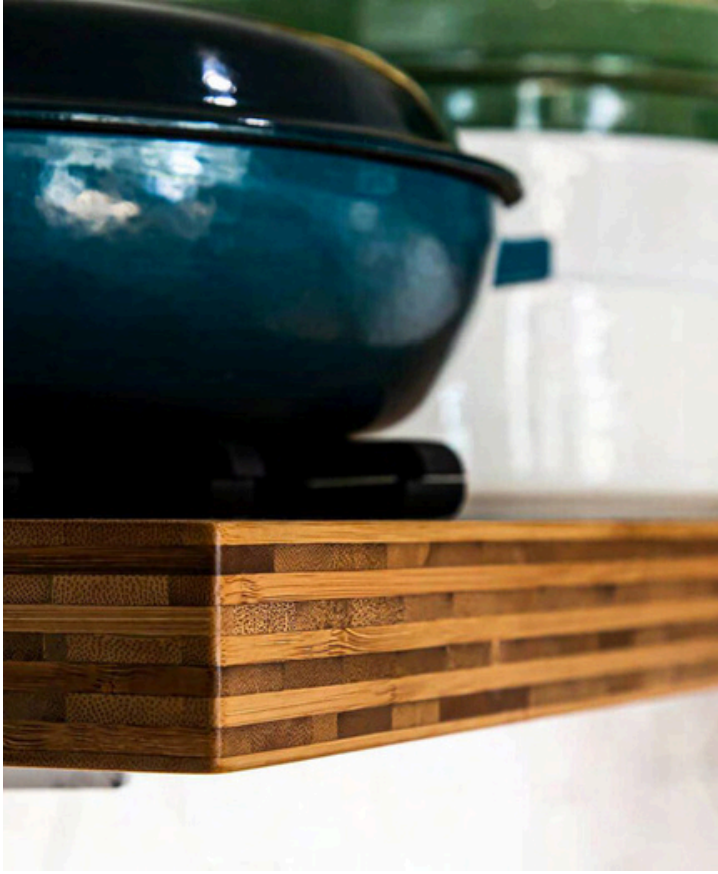
About the products

Made from 100% responsibly sourced bamboo.

Bamboo plywood offers a sustainable alternative to traditional timber and MDF. As a giant grass, bamboo is a non-timber forest product, but can be used for all the same applications as timber ply.

From 1.35/1.5mm veneers to 40mm worktops:

UK Bamboo Supplies stocks an extensive range of bamboo plywood products, available as veneers (1.35–5mm) and boards (7–40mm). Products are available in a range of ply constructions and press styles, including side-pressed, plain-pressed and strand-woven formations.
Made from 100% responsibly sourced bamboo, bamboo plywood offers a sustainable alternative to traditional timber and MDF. As a giant grass, bamboo is a non-timber forest product that can be used in many of the same applications as timber plywood.



Manufacturing Process

The story starts in the managed bamboo forests of Anji County, China, a region renowned for its abundant bamboo resources. Unlike hardwood and softwood species, bamboo reaches maturity in just 3–5 years. Harvesting mature poles stimulates further growth of the parent plant, making bamboo a highly renewable material.

After harvesting, the bamboo is processed into strips, with the outer skin removed and the material planed smooth. The strips are then lightly carbonised in a controlled environment, causing the natural sugars and starches to break down and caramelise and producing the characteristic caramel colour. Finally, the strips are arranged into their required formation and pressed with resin to create the finished veneers and boards.



^ All the bamboo boards & veneers are supplied in a lightly carbonised 'Caramel' colour.



1 **Mature bamboo poles harvested**



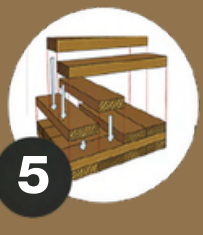
2 **Bamboo cut into strips**



3 **Outer skin removed & planed**



4 **Carbonisation via pressure steaming**



5 **Bamboo strips laid in formation**

Types of Press & Formation

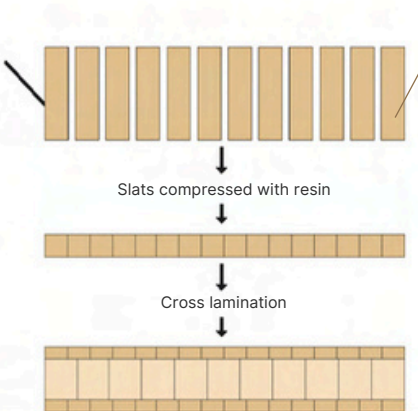
Side-pressed*

Also known as 'Vertical Press'



Side profile (3-ply)





The faces of the board are made by arranging the bamboo slats on their sides (thin edge), before pressing. This results in a more detailed face.

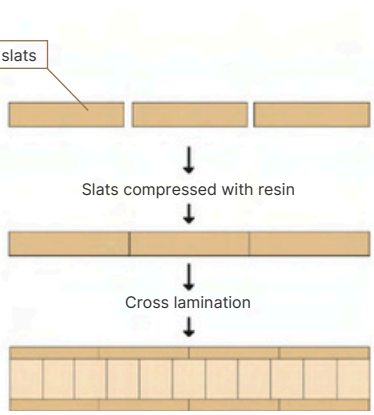
Plain-pressed*

Also known as 'Horizontal Press'



Side profile (3-ply)





The faces of the board are made by arranging the bamboo slats face-down before pressing. Individual bamboo slat and node details are clearly visible. A 'plainer' look, compared to the side-pressed.

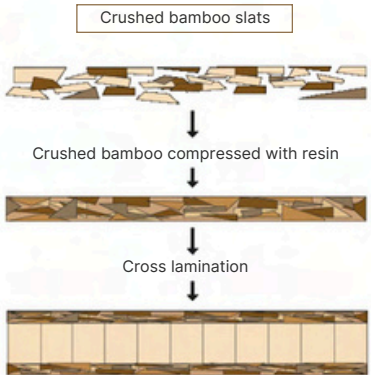
Strand-woven

High-density 'Tiger' bamboo



Side profile (3-ply)





The faces of the board are made with crushed bamboo fibres, compressed with resin under high pressure to create a high-density, strand-woven board with a distinctive striped appearance.
Available in a 19/20mm thickness only

*** The difference between plain pressed and side-pressed is purely aesthetic.**
Neither construction is inherently stronger than the other.

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FSC® Certified products available upon request

(N5. Bamboo and articles of bamboo)

Bamboo Veneers

Bamboo veneers have a display face (A side) and an underside (B side) and are designed to be bonded to a suitable substrate. Veneers are not intended for structural or load-bearing applications.

1.35 / 1.5mm

Side-pressed
3 ply



Sizes available

- 300 x 200mm (+/- A4)
- 600 x 400mm (+/- A2)
- 1220 x 410mm
- 2440 x 410mm

3mm

Side-pressed
6 ply



Sizes available

- 300 x 200mm (+/- A4)
- 600 x 400mm (+/- A2)
- 1220 x 410mm
- 2440 x 410mm

5mm

Side-pressed
1 ply



Sizes available

- 300 x 200mm (+/- A4)
- 600 x 400mm (+/- A2)
- 4ft x 4ft
- 8ft x 4ft

Note: Bamboo is carbonised using a standardised manufacturing process; however, slight shade variations between batches may occur due to natural variations in the bamboo, including sugar content and harvest timing. For colour consistency, we recommend ordering the full quantity required at the same time.

Bamboo Boards

Bamboo boards have a variety of applications depending on their thickness; such as, sustainable kitchen worktops, furniture, and laser engraving.

Bamboo boards are available in the following sizes*:

- 300 x 200mm (+/- A4)
- 600 x 400mm (+/- A2)
- 4ft x 4ft
- 8ft x 4ft

* Excluding the 40mm worktop (9-ply), which is available in 1 standard size: 2440 x 640mm

7mm
Side-pressed
3 ply



12mm
Side-pressed
3 ply



16mm
Side-pressed
3 ply



19/20mm
Side-pressed
3 ply



19/20mm
Plain-pressed
3 ply



19/20mm Tiger
Strand-woven (High Density)
3 ply



30mm
Side-pressed
3 ply



40mm
Side-pressed
5 ply



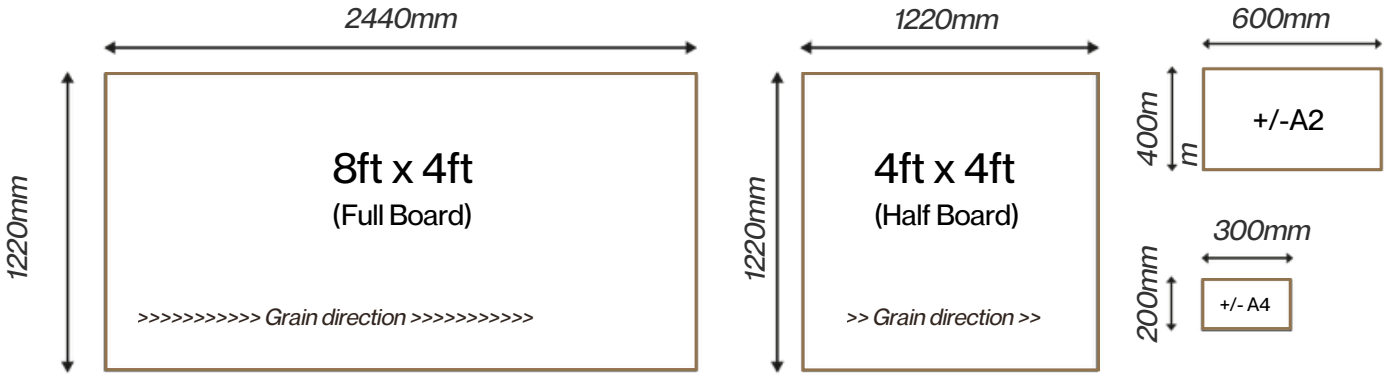
40mm worktop
Plain-pressed
9 ply, (2440 x 640mm)



Note: Bamboo is carbonised using a standardised manufacturing process; however, slight shade variations between batches may occur due to natural variations in the bamboo, including sugar content and harvest timing. For colour consistency, we recommend ordering the full quantity required at the same time.

Standard board sizes

The grain of each board runs horizontally on the longest length



Specification

	Plain and side-pressed	*High Density*
Density (Toplayer)	+/- 700 kg/m3	+/- 1050 kg/m3
Top layer thickness / Wear layer	3-4 mm 1)	3-4 mm 1)
Resistance to indentation (Brinell Hardness)	> 4kg/mm2	> 9.5kg/mm2 (EN 1534)
Formaldehyde	Emission Class E1 (< 0. 124 mg/m3, EN 717- 1) / Class E0 (< 0.025 mg/m3) 2)	Emission Class E1 (< 0.124 mg/m3, EN 717-1) / Class E0 (< 0.025 mg/m3) 2)
Modulus of elasticity	4318 N/mm2 (38 mm) 3) (mean value - EN 789)	4318 N/mm2 (38 mm) 3) (mean value - EN 789)
Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)	EPD (EN 15804)	EPD (EN 15804)
FSC® Certification	Products with FSC® Certification available upon request (FSC® C193661)	Products with FSC® Certification available upon request (FSC® C193661)



Example applications



Kitchen sink surround
40mm Caramel Bamboo Worktop, 9 ply



Modern office feature wall
40mm Caramel Bamboo Board, 3 ply



Bathroom vanity unit
19/20mm Tiger Bamboo (High Density), 3 ply



CNC Bamboo fretwork 19/20mm
Caramel Bamboo Board, 3 ply

Installation, Cutting & Aftercare

Installing Bamboo Veneers

The 1.35/1.5mm, 3mm and 5mm products are veneers. While they can be used independently for small items such as keyrings, decorations and name cards, most applications require the veneer to be bonded to a suitable flat substrate using an appropriate veneer adhesive. Failure to secure veneers correctly may result in bowing or splitting. Veneers are not load-bearing products.

Cutting and Machining

Bamboo boards and veneers can be cut, drilled, sanded and routed using standard woodworking tools. A fine-tooth blade is recommended to minimise splintering.

Laser Cutting, Engraving and CNC Machining

Bamboo boards and veneers are suitable for laser engraving, laser cutting and CNC machining, depending on the thickness of the material and the capabilities of your machine. Always check your machine settings and manufacturer's guidance before use.



Finishing

To protect the bamboo and enhance its appearance, we recommend applying a clear wood oil, stained wood oil or varnish. Stained oils can be used where a darker or altered finish is desired. For best results, apply multiple coats to all surfaces and edges, following the manufacturer's instructions and lightly sanding between coats where appropriate.

Aftercare

Keep bamboo surfaces clean using a soft damp cloth. Where oil finishes have been applied, reapply periodically to maintain protection, particularly in high-use areas such as kitchens.

Storage

Store bamboo boards and veneers flat in a dry, covered environment away from direct sunlight and temperature extremes. Proper storage helps minimise bowing and warping.







FAQS - Frequently Asked Questions

> Which board should I use as a tabletop?

We recommend 16mm, 19/20mm Plain or Side Pressed, 19/20mm Tiger, 30mm or 40mm bamboo boards. They are strong multi-ply boards.

> Can I use the bamboo boards for shelves?

Yes. Before deciding on what bamboo board to use, consider the weight of the items being place on the shelf. Heavy items could cause thin boards to bow or crack. For this reason, we recommend 19/20mm upwardsfor heavy duty shelving. Depending on the length of the shelf, a middle bracket may need to be installed for extra strength.

For smaller shelves that will hold light items (such as ornaments), 7mm or 12mm would be suitable.

> Which board should I use as kitchen worktop

The 19/20mm, 30mm and 40mm bamboo boards all make ideal kitchen worktops. We also supply a 40mm, 9 ply to standard worktop width, 2440mm x 640mm. The Tiger 19/20mm bamboo board is another good choice, with the strand-woven outer layers make a higher density product. For campervan conversions , the 12mm, 16mm and 19/20mm are popular for the kitchen areas.

Be sure to seal the worktops with several coats of worktop oil, such as Osmo® Top Oil, for added protection and to enhance the look of the bamboo.

> Can I use the bamboo boards & veneers in a bathroom?

We do not recommend using this panelling in bathrooms or other wet areas. The product is not suitable for high-moisture environments.

> Can I use the bamboo boards as flooring?

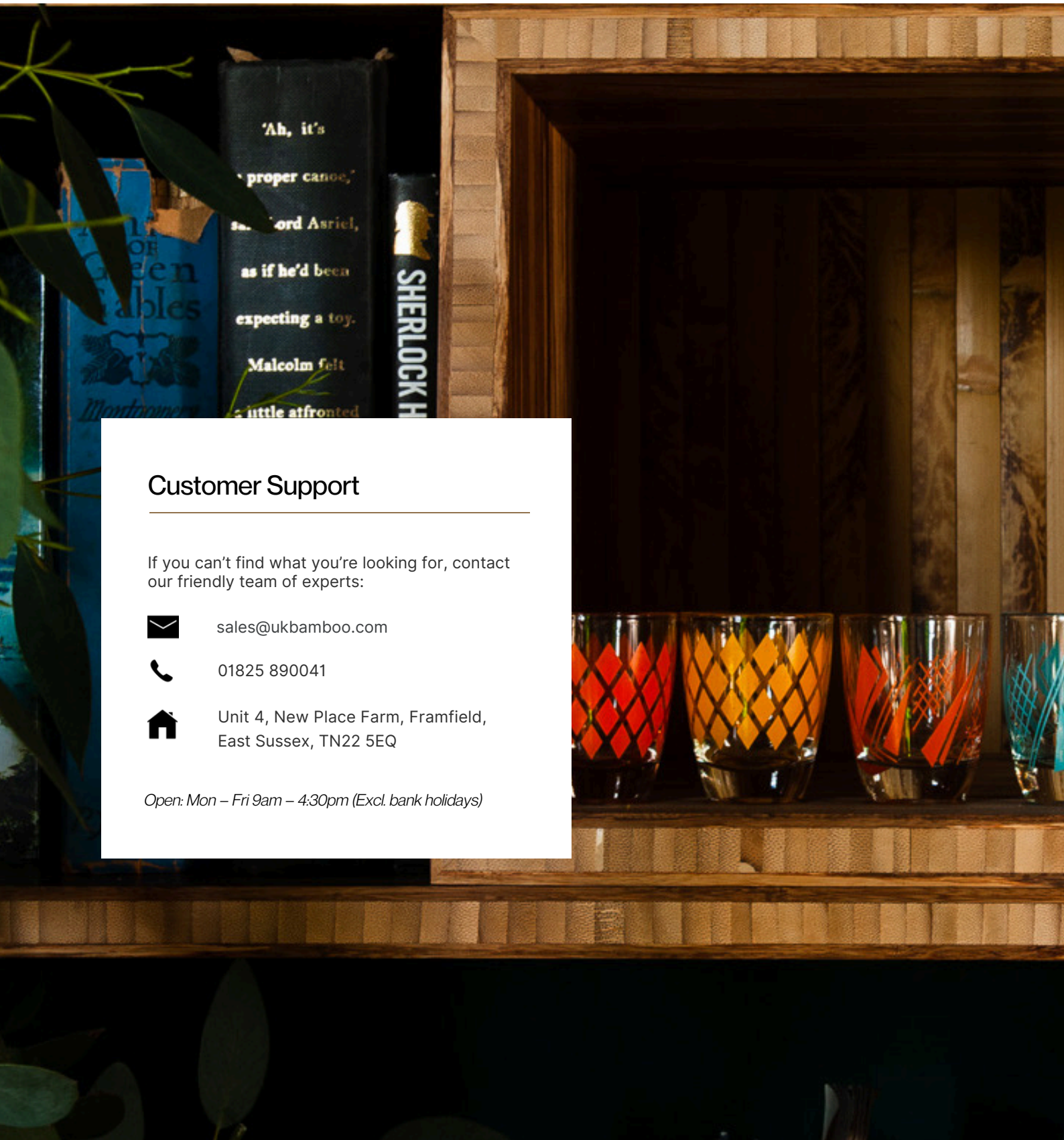
We do not recommend using the bamboo boards and veneers as floor boards or floor covering. The boards are not designed to be walked and this would likely result in indentations and damage. Although the 19/20mm Tiger bamboo is strand-woven and has a high resistance to impacts, we also would not recommend for flooring.

FAQS - Continued...

> I have a question not answered here. Can you help?

Of course. Take a look at our extensive range of FAQs on our website by clicking on the below link. The site's FAQs are constantly reviewed and updated.

Explore the FAQs >



Customer Support

If you can't find what you're looking for, contact our friendly team of experts:

sales@ukbamboo.com

01825 890041

Unit 4, New Place Farm, Framfield,
East Sussex, TN22 5EQ

Open: Mon – Fri 9am – 4:30pm (Excl. bank holidays)