

# firststep®

Break the bottleneck on painted jobs with firststep panels from Columbia Forest Products.

Factory flat line, pre-primed panels designed to meet today's demanding opaque finishing trend.

FEATURING  
**PureBond.**  
FORMALDEHYDE-FREE TECHNOLOGY



**columbia**  
FOREST PRODUCTS

# What our customers say about firststep

*"The primed panel has greatly reduced our spray booth bottleneck which is always an issue. With the primed panel, we can save from 1 to 1.5 days per kitchen completion. We used to complete 2 kitchens per week, we can now complete 3 and sometimes 4 per week. We have tremendous praise for the primed panel as well as the pre-finished maple."*

**John Propps, Challenge LTD, Myrtle Beach, SC**

*"The primed panel is a very good product, the material holds up well through the brush sand process. It's nice to have a good product to work with that you can depend on. We like Columbia and usually spec your maple plywood because of the quality."*

**Cam Catatoni, owner, Everwood Cabinet and Trim, Inc., Delray Beach, FL**

*"We sand it up a little bit and it's right there, ready to paint. It's a great time-saver for us. We have had no problems with the coatings over the primer. We were looking for ways to cut down processing because we do a lot of paint finishes. Probably 30% of our business is painted cabinets."*

**Paul Beiter, Candlelight Cabinetry, Lockport, NY**

## Frequently asked questions

### › What items are available for priming (cores, veneers, sizes)?

Columbia's entire 4' wide wood paneling range available to a maximum length of 8' with thicknesses up to 1 1/4".

### › What type and color of primer is applied?

Cross-linked, water based primer available in white only.

### › What types of coatings pair best with firststep?

Water-based and solvent-based coatings are compatible with firststep with samples available for compatibility testing.

### › Should firststep panels be sanded prior to the application of a topcoat?

Yes. A **light** 320 grit or finer scuff sand is recommended to remove fiber pop and grit.

### › Do I need to worry about added formaldehyde in domestic veneer core constructions?

No need to worry. PureBond®, Columbia's cost effective, CARBII exempt, soy-based panel assembly technology has replaced urea formaldehyde for VC panel assembly.

### › What about composite panel constructions? Can I order a panel with a composite center or cross bands without added formaldehyde?

Yes you can. PureBond branded panels assure use of NAF composite centers and cross bands together with soy-based lamination of decorative hardwood veneers for true, no-added formaldehyde panel construction.

For more information on Columbia's firststep panels or other products, please visit **[www.cfpwood.com](http://www.cfpwood.com)** or call one of the regional numbers listed below.

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## Features & Benefits

### › Labor savings:

High efficiency factory flat line application saves finishing steps on shop floor.

### › Domestic Hardwood Veneers:

Reduce extractive bleed through caused by use of softwoods, unfamiliar imported hardwoods.

### › PureBond technology:

No-added formaldehyde construction pleases ingredient conscious consumers.

### › North American availability:

Available from Klamath Falls, OR; Hearst, ON; Old Fort, NC.



**Above** – Residential bookcases built with FirstStep pre-primed panels. The FirstStep product was featured in the 25th Anniversary show home in Carlisle, MA for *This Old House*.

**Eastern US:Chatham**  
1 800-237-2428

**Eastern US:Old Fort**  
1 800-438-6069

**Western US & Canada**  
1 800-547-1791

**Northeastern US & Canada**  
1 888-664-1964 • 1 888-525-1964

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