

Ⓢ Tips for Using Vermiculite Board



Bullseye Vermiculite Board is stronger and more durable than most fiberboard and can be cut and tooled like wood or particleboard. Be sure to pre-drill any attachment points before screwing them together; driving screws directly into the boards may make them bloat or crack. Whenever generating dust, work in a well-ventilated area and wear a NIOSH-approved respirator.

You will need to pre-fire the vermiculite before using it in a glass project. (Pre-fire the Bullseye Vermiculite Box Kit components before assembling the box.)

Fire at a rate of 500°F (278°C) per hour to a temperature of 1580°F (860°C) or about 55°F (30°C) higher than the temperature at which you will fire the glass. Hold at that temperature for half an hour, then crash cool the kiln.

Line with fiber paper before firing any glass projects.

Handle the vermiculite carefully, since it can become brittle after multiple firings.

Vermiculite is often mined in the same place as asbestos, which can contaminate the vermiculite. Bullseye Vermiculite products come from a mine that is certified asbestos free.

⊕ Ramp Project Box Assembly

The Ramp Project box has pre-drilled holes to help get started with assembly. Use these holes to drill accurate pilot holes which will allow you to assemble the pieces into a box that fits together well. Keep in mind that vermiculite is a brittle material. Tension from “bending” the vermiculite to line everything up will cause it to break. Don’t push too hard when drilling the pilot holes.

First build the sides of the box:

1. Align a long side with a short side. Do this on top of the base, using the base to ensure the pieces are placed correctly.
2. Drill a pilot hole into the end of the side piece that is butted up against the other. Using the existing hole in one of the side pieces, drill through that hole and into the end of your second piece.
3. Screw the two pieces together.
4. Add a third side piece, again on top of the base board to ensure pieces are placed correctly.
5. Drill the pilot hole into the end, as with the first set.
6. Screw the third side into the first two sides.
7. Add the last side, on top of the base board.
8. Drill a third pilot hole and screw together.
9. Drill the fourth pilot hole and screw the last side together to create completed box sides.

Now drill pilot holes into the bottom of the sides to make the base fit the box sides:

10. Place the base ON TOP of the assembled sides. Line it up squarely with the sides.
11. Using the four existing holes in the base, drill through those holes and into the bottom of the sides. All of your pilot holes are now drilled. Screw the base onto the sides.

Finally, remove all the screws, pre-fire the box components and assemble the box:

12. Take the entire box apart carefully, removing all of the screws. Fire the vermiculite pieces in a kiln at 500F/hour to 1580F, hold 30 min, then crash cool to room temperature.
13. You are now ready to add a fiber paper liner and assemble the box for casting..