
Whiteboards & Boards

Q1. What's the difference between a melamine, porcelain, and glass whiteboard?

A: Melamine boards are the entry-level option — a paper-based surface with a white coating. They ghost (leave permanent marker shadows) after about 2 years of use and are difficult to clean fully. Porcelain boards have a hard ceramic-fused surface — they resist ghosting and staining indefinitely, can be cleaned with standard dry-erase erasers, and hold up in high-use environments for 15-20 years. Glass boards are tempered glass with a white back — beautiful, completely stain-proof, easy to clean, but more expensive and can shatter if struck hard enough. For commercial use, porcelain is the minimum recommended. Glass is the premium choice.

Q2. What size whiteboard do I need for a conference room?

A: A general rule: 1 linear foot of board width per 2 feet of room length. For a 12-foot-long room, that suggests a 6-foot (72") board minimum. For a 20-foot room, an 8-foot board (96") or two 4-foot boards is appropriate. Also consider the distance from the board to the back row of viewers — at 15 feet, 3" text is readable; at 30 feet, you need 5" text. The further away the audience, the larger the board needs to be. When in doubt, go bigger — you can always use less of a large board, but a small board in a big room is a constant frustration.

Q3. Should I get a wall-mounted or mobile/rolling whiteboard?

A: Wall-mounted boards are more stable, can be larger, and have a cleaner, permanent look. They're the right choice when the room is dedicated to whiteboard use. Mobile/rolling boards are flexible — roll them where they're needed, store them when not in use. They're ideal for multi-use spaces, training rooms, or classrooms. For collaborative offices without dedicated meeting rooms, a mobile board on wheels is often more practical. For conference rooms with a fixed front wall, wall-mount is the standard.

Q4. Can whiteboards damage walls and how do I hang one properly?

A: Improperly hung whiteboards can damage walls. A heavy porcelain or glass board should be mounted into wall studs — drywall anchors alone are not sufficient for boards over 15 lbs. Use a stud finder to locate studs and mount the hanging system into at least two studs. Floating mount systems distribute weight across multiple contact points, which is better for large boards. If your wall doesn't have studs in the right location, a heavy-duty wall-mount rail system spanning multiple studs is the solution. For temporary installation, heavy-duty Command strips work for very small (under 5 lbs) boards only.

Q5. What are the magnetic vs. non-magnetic options?

A: Magnetic surfaces allow you to attach documents, notes, and materials with magnets — a huge functional advantage in collaborative environments. Porcelain boards are inherently magnetic because they're fused over a steel substrate. Standard melamine boards are not magnetic. Glass boards are typically not magnetic unless a ferrous backing is added. If you want to pin up materials alongside whiteboard writing — very common in project rooms and Agile/scrum environments — magnetic is a must-have. Always specify magnetic surfaces for collaborative environments.
