

**Axolotl Sheet Metal - Aged  
SPECIFICATION DATA SHEET  
For the information of Specifiers and Trades**

**Product Description**

Axolotl Aged Sheet metals are supplied where flat, smooth metal surfaces are required. Sheet Metals can be supplied raw, polished or aged with one of our specially developed patina processes, then either sealed to maintain a stable finish, or left unsealed to allow the metal to age and tarnish naturally according to its environment.

This range offers architects and designers the ability to specify pre-aged panels on a new build or renovation, avoiding bright and inconsistent raw metal, while ensuring the characteristics of the solid metal are retained.

By using a sheet metal substrate, bespoke artwork can be etched into the surface, creating truly one off masterpieces. Applications include internal and external applications such as facades, feature-walls, counters, screens, and any other application that requires a sheet metal cladding.

Our sheet metal range includes brass, copper, zinc, aluminium, and corten.  
When treated with our Brown Florentine Patina, brass can be aged to emulate a bronze appearance.

Sheet metals are available in standard sizes:

- Brass and copper has a standard sheet size of 1800mm x 900mm, in thicknesses ranging from 1-3mm. Larger sheets in brass and copper can occasionally be available in thicknesses above 1.6mm.
- Zinc sheet metal comes in a typical sheet size of 1000 x 3000mm and is only available in 0.7mm thick.

Axolotl's supply capabilities for brass, copper, aluminium, and corten include laser cutting, and brake press folding. We do not offer a service to adhere the sheet metals to the backing substrates.

Axolotl's supply capabilities for zinc sheet metal includes guillotine cutting, laser cutting and the wrapping of supplied panels. Clear details on the shapes and sizes of panels to be wrapped must be provided before delivery, allowing us to formally quote and confirm suitability of the panel size first.

All shapes that are to be laser cut must have a 10mm margin within the full size sheet i.e a 900 x 1800mm metal sheet can cut a shape at a maximum size of 880mm x 1780mm.

Where Axolotl is supplying the panels all work is priced based on the total quantity of sheets required to manufacture the job, smaller orders may be priced at a higher rate due to higher waste and labour.

Sheet metals that require fabrication, folding, bending etc can also be supplied by a third party to Axolotl, after the fabrication has occurred.

Materials must be supplied raw, we do not recommend applying adhesive films to the surface or anything that can leave residue on the treated faces. Axolotl will prepare all surfaces with a light sand which will remove fine scuffs from the surface.

Dents, machining marks, deep scratches and other inherent issues with any supplied metals will most likely be present in the finished product and may even be highlighted via the ageing process. Note welds/brazing will not age the same as the raw metals.

**Ageing**

Sheet metals are able to be aged with a number of different treatments including black florentine, brown florentine, verdigris and pearl patina. Patina's are added to the sheet metals either through the application of chemicals or heat. Each individual panel will react slightly different, creating an intended inconsistency found in natural aged metals, just as the material would do naturally if left for several years. It also works well in high traffic areas as it prevents marks such as fingerprints and offers the ability to topcoat the metals for further protection.

Axolotl Sheet Metals are natural sheet metals that are chemically aged to a set patina. The aesthetic beauty of the patina is achieved through various propriety technologies held by Axolotl.

Samples illustrating the desired patina are used solely as a guide for direction of the finished product. If the client has a sample they would like Axolotl to match to they must include a photo in the specification and provide the sample at the time of order, and all work will be carried out to match as best as possible.

Custom patination of sheet metals must be performed with the direction of an approved sample.

Due to the natural oxidation and idiosyncrasies in the sheet metals, Axolotl Sheet Metals are bound by the inherent properties of the material. Axolotl recommends its clients acknowledge that they understand the outcomes as outlined below:

Environmental conditions such as temperature fluctuations and humidity naturally affect the sheet metals and may affect the outcome of the desired patina. This may lead to variations in colour and shade.

Physical properties of the metals being treated such as size, shape, cut outs, folds etc can also effect the outcome of the patina. Watermarks, drips and pooling may be present in the finish, due to the application of the liquid chemicals.

Axolotl offers to seal all sheet metals, with a semi-gloss or gloss polyurethane, or a gloss lacquer for internal applications. This top coat application may enhance or dull the patina and will 'lock in' and patina from further ageing.

Axolotl also offers to leave the sheet metals unsealed. This will result in the natural oxidation and tarnishing of the sheet metals over time.

### **Maintenance**

**Sealed Metals:** Clean Axolotl Sheet Metal surfaces with a soft cloth, warm water and mild detergents only. Never use any solvents, thinners, caustics or powder cleansers. Do not use abrasives as this will potentially scratch or remove the aging.

**Unsealed Metals:** Caution is to be used when cleaning unsealed metals as it is their characteristic to continue to change. The use of cleaners may effect or remove the patina. Axolotl recommends the client tests a small section with warm water and a soft cloth first as the patina may take time to settle and become permanent. Never use any solvents, thinners, caustics or powder cleansers. Do not use abrasives as this will potentially scratch or remove the aging.

The need for care and maintenance of the surfaces depends on the environment and the type of exposure. These factors determine the frequency of washing. Detergents should be checked for harmful reactions on the surface concerned prior to use.

### **Lead Times**

Please confirm lead times prior to delivery/commencement of work. The minimum time required for any work carried out in our factory is generally 15-20 working days, however this may increase for large or intricate surfaces, or the existing workload.

### **Handling and storing sheet metal panels**

Aged Sheet metals are natural materials and can be effected by corrosive conditions encountered during shipment and storage and a small amount of care will maintain its original appearance for a long time. These panels are used for their appearance and it is worth the effort to maintain the original surface as it will be more cost effective than restoring the panels. The principal things to guard against are surface abrasion and water stains. Axolotl supply our sheet metals with a clear film or cell air between treated faces to help prevent scratching. It is the clients responsibility when transporting to handle panels with due care and prevent items from rubbing on one another or other surfaces. Sheet metals can be packed into a fully enclosed crate for regional or interstate orders. To help avoid marks Axolotl pack the metal to prevent undue flexing or twisting and items rubbing against each other. It is important to transport and store panels in dry conditions to prevent water damage.

Axolotl recommends freight insurance in all cases where an external transport company is engaged.

Panels in original boxes should never be left in the open, even if the package is "waterproof", the seal will not be perfect and outdoor storage is highly undesirable. Waterproof packages are designed to protect the metal during shipment and are not meant for extended exposure to the weather.

When storing panels avoid contact with other metals or abrasive items which can cause scratches or other marks. It is also good practice to keep chemicals such as acids, alkalis, caustics, nitrates and phosphates away from the metal surface.

**Disclaimer:** By signing Axolotl's quotation clients are acknowledging that they understand the outcomes as outlined above. The information presented herein is supplied as a guide to those who handle, install or use this product. It is important that the end user makes a determination regarding the safety procedures utilised during use of this product and ensure they are adequate. Our application of written or spoken technical recommendations that we use to support the buyer/processor is based on our experience, according to the current state of knowledge in science and practice and are not binding and shall not establish a legally valid contractual relationship, and no additional obligations under the purchase contract. Since the use and application of this product is beyond our control we cannot be held responsible for product field performance. The information represented above is the result of our considerable experience with this product but is not to be construed as a performance warranty.

Any advice, recommendation, information, assistance or service provided by any of the divisions of Axolotl Group Pty Ltd or its related entities (collectively, Axolotl Group) in relation to goods manufactured by it or their use and application is given in good faith and is believed by Axolotl Group to be appropriate and reliable. However, any advice, recommendation, information, assistance or service provided by Axolotl Group is provided without liability or responsibility PROVIDED THAT the foregoing shall not exclude, limit, restrict or modify the right entitlements and remedies conferred upon any person or the liabilities imposed upon Axolotl Group by any condition or warranty implied by Commonwealth, State or Territory Act or ordinance void or prohibiting such exclusion limitation or modification.

**For further information, technical assistance or costing please contact:**

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**NOTE FOR SPECIFIERS -**

**PLEASE ENSURE SPECIFICATION SHEET IS COPIED & ATTACHED TO TENDER DRAWINGS FOR THE REFERENCE OF ALL RELEVANT TRADES.**

**For further information, technical assistance or costing please contact:**

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