

Cleaning and Maintenance of HPL

Start with the gentlest method of cleaning. If a stain persists, work through the following steps. Repeat each step several times if the stain seems to be disappearing.

Step 1: Use a damp cloth or sponge and mild soap or detergent. Rinse panels and dry on completion.

Step 2: Apply mild household cleaner/ detergent with soft bristled brush.

Step 3: Use non-abrasive cleaner and scrub lightly with soft bristled brush for 10-20 seconds.

Step 4: Clean carefully with cream cleaner containing mild abrasive.

- **ALWAYS** rinse thoroughly after cleaning; cleaning solution residue is the biggest cause of damage to laminate surfaces.
- **ALWAYS** wipe up spills immediately, and rinse thoroughly.
- **NEVER** use acidic or abrasive cleaners.
- **NEVER** expose laminate to household bleach for prolonged periods of time.
- **NEVER** apply excessive scrubbing, especially on gloss finish surfaces.

General Comments

- In order to avoid water marks/limescale build-up, standing water should be removed from horizontal surfaces. Any water that is splashed onto panels or panel edges should be removed immediately.
- In the event of damage (e.g. drilled holes): epoxy or polyurethane resin based car fillers can be used to repair small areas. When the filler has hardened, the surface can be 'flushed' and painted with matching colour touch-up paint (colour references available from Amwell) or finished with Colourfil laminate repairer and sealant (by Unika Colour Products Ltd. Newcastle upon Tyne, telephone 0191 259 0033 - available from all good DIY stores).

Cleaning and Maintenance of Stainless Steel Components

We recommend stainless steel is cleaned at least once a month. In wet areas such as swimming pools or shower cubicles, stainless steel should be cleaned a minimum of once a week. If the surface begins to discolour, either the cleaning regime is inadequate or in the case of swimming pool areas the environment may have deteriorated.

Wiping surfaces using a clean cloth with warm water and a mild detergent or soap, rinsing with warm clean water and drying with a towel is usually adequate. Where stainless steel has become extremely dirty with signs of surface discolouration alternative methods of cleaning can be used:

DO NOT use strong acidic solutions such as silver cleaners or building mortar removal solutions. If this happens, the acid solution must be removed immediately and rinsed with clean water.

DO NOT use concentrated bleaches or products containing chlorine.

Halogen salts, especially chlorides can penetrate the protective chrome oxide layer and will allow corrosion. Halogens are easily recognised because they end in 'ine'. In order of activity they are: 1) fluorine; 2) chlorine; 3) bromine; 4) iodine and 5) astatine (very unstable). **DO NOT use ANY product containing these chemicals.**

Hypochlorite containing bleaches must be used in the dilutions suggested in the manufacturers' instructions and contact times kept to a minimum. Thorough rinsing after use is **very important**.

Cleaning agents must be prepared and used according to the manufacturer's health & safety instructions. Solvents should not be used in enclosed areas.

If wire brushes are used, they should be made of a similar or better grade of stainless steel. Ensure abrasives are free from sources of contamination, especially iron and chlorides which leave deposits causing rust.