



Care and Maintenance information

Laminate panelling and counter finishes

Decorative laminates do not easily scratch or chip and will withstand normal wear and tear, but should never be used as a cutting or chopping surface. They will resist the effects of vandalism, and when properly fabricated will provide very durable surfaces suitable for public areas.

Laminate surfaces are best kept clean by cleaning with **water and mild detergent**. Persistent marks can be removed by using a mild abrasive cleaner. **On no account, however, should scouring pads or harsh abrasive cleaning agents be used.**

Non-scratch liquids, creams or pastes, such as 'JIF', 'FLASH' or 'AJAX', are recommended as they will not alter the surface appearance. In a more industrial context - for instance, where the surface has become discoloured by long term exposure to tobacco smoke or industrial grime - cream cleansers containing mild abrasives are very effective, but should be used carefully.

The above cleaners will also be found useful in removal of ball pen marks, pencil marks and indelible felt pen inks. A few drops of methylated spirits on a clean cloth will also assist greatly in the removal of ink markings.

Prolonged contact with acid based sanitaryware cleaners and limescale removers can cause permanent staining. Any such spillage or splashes must, therefore, be washed off immediately. After cleaning, the surface should be washed thoroughly with clean water, and polished dry with a soft cloth. Window cleaning agents such as a few drops of vinegar on a wash leather, or the use of proprietary products such as 'WINDOWLENE', are excellent in removing and avoiding smears on the final finish. Spray-on car windscreen cleaners can also be used, although these are expensive when used on large areas.

Furniture polishes should not be used as they can result in the build-up of wax or silicone on the surface, with eventual discolouration and smears.

Cumulative staining over a long period, such as tea or coffee spillage can usually be removed by a dilute solution of household bleach.

Deeply textured finishes are obviously more difficult to clean than plain surfaces and light textures. For stubborn marks in textured finishes, a nylon bristle brush can be used in conjunction with any of the above cleaners to remove deep seated stains and marks.