



# Care Instructions

Formica® laminates do not easily scratch or chip and will withstand normal wear and tear. They are also stain resistant therefore the best cleaning agent for laminate surfaces is clean water and mild detergent. It is also recommended that you rinse detergent off with a clean, damp cloth and polish the surface dry with a soft cloth.

## Streaks

Streaky marks sometimes show on dark colours and gloss surfaces. After cleaning use a glass cleaning product such as Mr Muscle Surface & Glass or Ajax Spray 'n' Wipe glass cleaners.

## Grease

Clean, hot soapy water will deal with greasy marks. If needed, dab, wait and wipe away. Finish off with a glass cleaner.

## Spills

With some accidental spills you must take prompt action. Wipe off **beetroot** and **berry** juices, first aid preparations, concentrated **bleach**, dishwasher **detergents** and artificial **dyes** or hair colouring immediately. Acid based **ceramic cleaners**, **oven cleaner** and **limescale removers** must not be used as they can cause permanent staining. Any spillage or splashes of these cleaners must be washed off the laminate surface immediately. Specialty glue types such as **Super Glue** can also be removed immediately with acetone (nail polish remover).

## Scratches

Formica laminates will withstand normal wear and tear but can be damaged by scratching or cutting with utensils, knives and unglazed pottery. Darker colours and gloss surfaces show scratches more readily than lighter colours. To minimise scratching, always place and lift objects from the surface. Never drag or slide them across the surface.

## Stains

If a stain cannot be removed with Ajax Spray 'n' Wipe try methylated spirits or dab the stain with a diluted bleach mixture (1 part bleach to 8 parts water). Leave for 3 minutes then wash off with water and dry. Finish off with Ajax Spray 'n' Wipe. Please note that bleach may irreversibly damage the laminate surface. Always be careful on laminate joins and edges as these products can break down the adhesive used to bond your Formica laminate to the substrate.

Ink marks from felt-tip and ball-point pens can be removed with a suitable solvent such as methylated spirits or acetone on a clean cloth. Solvents such as methylated spirits and acetone are highly flammable. Use with proper caution.

After using a cleaner, the surface should be rinsed with clean water and polished dry with a soft cloth.

## Avoid

- Don't place appliances or pots straight from the oven/stove directly on to your Formica laminate surface.
- Avoid scourers and abrasives. They will damage the surface.
- Furniture polishes should not be used, as a build up of silicone wax on the surface may result in eventual discolouration and smear marks which can be very difficult to remove.
- Don't cut directly on Formica laminate surfaces.
- Don't place burning cigarettes on to Formica laminate surfaces.

## Quick reference cleaning guide

Finish	Recommended cleaning
Formica laminates - Velour, Etchings, Naturelle & ARTouch finish	A damp cloth removes spills and greasy spots. Clean with warm soapy water. To remove heavy built up dirt use a glass cleaner such as Mr Muscle Surface & Glass or Ajax Spray 'n' Wipe glass cleaners. Rub with a clean, dry cloth to bring back brightness.
Formica laminates - Riverwash & Honed finish	Deep textured finishes are inevitably more difficult to clean than smooth surfaces. For built up dirt in textured surfaces, use a nylon bristled hand or vegetable brush in conjunction with clean hot soapy water. Clean the soiled area using a rotating motion. Rinse and dry the surface with a clean dry cloth.
Formica laminates - Metallic finish	Clean these items with a soft, damp, non-abrasive cotton cloth and a mild liquid detergent. Do not use solvents, abrasive cleaners or waxes on metallic laminates. Mild glass cleaners may be used to remove streaks.
Formica laminates - Gloss Plus & AR Plus finish	A damp cloth removes spills and greasy spots. Clean with warm soapy water. To remove heavy built up dirt use a glass cleaner such as Mr Muscle Surface & Glass or Ajax Spray 'n' Wipe glass cleaners. Rub with a clean, dry cloth to bring back brightness. If used as a whiteboard surface then only Whiteboard markers with the brand Artline or Staedtler should be used. The use of permanent markers is not recommended as while it is possible to clean off, they may leave ghosting or non-removable marks over time. A soft cloth (no wetting) should remove whiteboard marker pens. If necessary, a soft cloth made damp with water can also be used. For a thorough cleaning we recommend the use of Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) and a soft cloth.