

## Maintenance of High Pressure Laminates

Formica® decorative laminates do not easily scratch or chip. They will withstand normal wear and tear, but should never be used as a cutting or chopping surface.

Properly fabricated, they provide very durable surfaces suitable for public areas. They resist the effects of vandalism.

To clean laminate surfaces, use water and mild detergent. For stubborn stains, we recommend non-scratch liquids or creams, such as 'Cif', 'Flash' or 'Mr Muscle'.

More persistent marks and discolouration (for example, after long exposure to tobacco smoke or industrial grime) can usually be removed by careful use of a mild abrasive cream or paste cleaner. Do not use scouring pads or harsh abrasive cleaning agents.

Ink marks from felt-tip and ball-point pens can be removed with a solvent such as methylated spirits or acetone on a clean cloth. Organic solvents such as white spirit and cellulose thinners can also be used to remove paint splashes and graffiti, as they will not affect the laminate surface.

Do not use acid-based ceramic cleaners and limescale removers, which can cause permanent staining. Wash any spillage or splashes of these cleaners from the laminate surface immediately.

After using a cleaner, rinse the laminate surface with clean water and polish dry with a soft cloth. Proprietary window cleaning products such as 'Windowlene' are excellent for removing drying marks and smears on the finish.

Do not use furniture polishes. These cause a build up of silicone wax on the surface, possibly causing eventual discolouration and smear marks which can be very difficult to remove.

Deeply-textured finishes are more difficult to clean than smooth surfaces and light textures. To remove deep-seated, stubborn stains and marks in textured surfaces use a nylon bristle brush in conjunction with any of the above cleaners.