

Information Data Sheet 8

Cleaning of HPL Surfaces

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Congratulations

on choosing HPL as a decorative Surface Material which has special beauty, outstanding cleanability and durability properties. HPL, manufacturing is based on proven technology. HPL was developed in order to resist the hard requirements of daily use.

Although HPL is extremely durable and needs minimal care due to its non porous surface, it is nevertheless not indestructible. In the following we have listed some cleaning recommendations, that will ensure the value of your product stays.

Cleaning

Clean the surface simply using water and dry it with a paper tissue or a soft cloth. If the impurities cannot be removed, use a common cleaning agent without abrasive agents. Afterwards clean the surface with water and dry it.

Persistent Contamination

Use clean, hot water, clean cloths or paper tissues. Use normal cleaning agent without abrasive constituent, washing powder (especially heavy-duty detergent), liquid soap or hard soap. Remove dirt with solution of cleaning agent, or let it soak according to the degree of soiling, then wash off with clean water or glass cleaner. Wipe several times if necessary. Remove all traces of cleaning agent, to prevent streaks developing. With a clean, absorbent cloth or paper towel wipe the surface dry. The above procedure can be improved by means of a plastic cleaning sponge or a nylon brush.

Contaminations/Stains

HPL, a homogeneous, and non-porous material is resistant to most household chemicals. Although liquids cannot penetrate into the material, contaminations or stains should be wiped off immediately. Longer contact with mainly acidic substances e.g. aggressive household cleaner, metal cleaner, toilet cleaner and certain oven cleaner should be avoided.

In the case of special contamination please find below the relevant cleaning methods.

- **Lime contamination**

Clean with warm, 10% acetic acid or citric acid solution. Afterwards clean the surface with pure, hot water. If using commercial lime removers wash the surface immediately with hot water.

- **Paraffine or wax residues**

Residues of paraffine or wax shall at first be mechanically removed using a plastic or wood spatula. Scratching the surface must be avoided! Remaining residues can be ironed with a sheet of blotting paper.

- **Water-soluble dyes, lacquers, adhesives and dispersions**

Fresh contaminations usually can be cleaned with warm water. Dried residues can be cleaned using solvents like ethanol, acetone, benzine or nail-varnish remover.

- **Solvent-based dyes, lacquers and adhesives**

Fresh contaminations usually can be cleaned with solvents, dried residues if necessary after a longer application time. Suitable solvents must be inquired from dye-, lacquer- or adhesive supplier.

- **2-Component adhesives and lacquers**

e.g. condensation resins (adhesives) on base of formaldehyde and urea (UF), melamine (MF), phenol (PF) and resorcinol; reactive adhesives and lacquers on base of epoxy resin, unsaturated polyester and polyurethane (PU). Contaminations can not be removed from the laminate surface after hardening! The surface must immediately be cleaned with suitable organic solvents, recommended by the supplier of the adhesive/lacquer system.

- **Sealing material on base of silicone or polyurethane**

Residues shall at first be mechanically removed using a plastic or wood spatula. Scratching the surface must be avoided! Remaining residues can be cleaned with a silicone remover, if necessary after a longer application time. Longer contact times with the silicone remover can change the laminate surface.

- **Streaking after cleaning with solvents**

Streaking can be removed through subsequent cleaning with hot water and drying with a clean, soft, absorbent cloth or a household-type paper tissue.

International Committee of the Decorative Laminates Industry (ICDLI)

For more than 40 years the ICDLI is the international representation of the interests of the European laminates manufacturers. Further information about the ICDLI and the data sheets published up to now you will find under

This application was compiled by the International Committee of the Decorative Laminates Industry.

It considers the conditions of application technology in the European countries.

www.icdli.com

If you have further questions, please contact us:

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