



Caring for your Laminex[®] or Formica[®] Laminate Benchtop

When cared for, your Laminex[®] or Formica[®] laminate benchtop surface will last for many years. It is resistant to reasonable wear and tear but does have its limits and does need regular care and attention. For full care instructions, please see reverse. The limits of its use are as follows:

Laminex[®] and Formica[®] can withstand temperatures up to 155 degrees centigrade. Care should be taken with hot pots and pans as the bottom of a pot of boiling water may exceed 155 degrees when first removed from the stove. A pan removed from the oven will certainly exceed 155 degrees centigrade.

It is wear resistant but sharp objects moved across its surface will cause scratching. This will not impair the serviceability of the surface but will spoil its appearance. Dark benchtop colours will make these scratches more visible as will smooth or glossy finishes.

It is resistant to staining from commonly used beverages and foodstuffs but needs regular cleaning (refer to the reverse of this card). Spillages which cannot be removed are generally covered as insurance claims under most policies.

Never use any of the following on Laminex® or Formica® Laminate for any reason.

- Abrasive cleaners such as Jif™ Cream Cleanser, Ajax™ (powder or liquid), Chemico™, Brasso™, Mr Muscle™ Oven Cleaner, Scrub Free.
- Neat Janola™ or other equivalent brands of bleaches
- Scourer pads
- Wire wool
- Sandpaper
- Any strong mineral acid such as sulphuric acid, battery acid, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid or phosphoric acid
- Any product containing strong mineral acids such as commercial toilet cleaners, grout removers, descalants, rust removers, etc.
- Care must be taken where cleaning agents or solvents are highly acidic or alkaline as these may permanently damage the surface.

Laminate Cleaning Summary

Recommended cleaners: Ajax Spray & Wipe™ Multipurpose, Mr. Muscle™ All Purpose Cleaner, Shift'n' Shine™, Jif™ Powerspray.

Cleaning	Procedure
Regular	Use recommended cleaner or wash down with clean, warm, soapy water. (See note 1 below). Rinse cloth or sponge with water from the tap and wipe dry.
Dried on food	Apply recommended cleaner and allow to soak. Use a scrubbing brush if necessary. Wipe clean with a damp cloth or sponge.
Heavy dirt build up (particularly on embossed finish)	Dilute 1 part Janola™ with 3 parts of water and leave on surface for 10 minutes. Scrub with nylon bristle brush – a fine bristled nail brush is ideal. Wipe clean with a damp cloth or sponge.
Stains & marks removal	
Procedure	
Newsprint	Methylated spirits (See note 2 below) on a dry paper towel.
Rust	Soaking with vinegar or lemon juice may shift it.
Pencil	Rub with a wet rag.
Felt pen or dry marker	Methylated spirits or acetone (from pharmacy).
Paint	Acetone or Lacquer Thinners (from paint or hardware shop).
Hair dye	Dilute 1 part Janola™ with 3 parts of water, leave on surface for 10 minutes. Wipe down with clean, damp cloth or sponge.
Supa Glue™ - Cyanoacrylate type	Wipe with acetone on a dry paper towel.
Glue - contact type	Ados Solvent "N" (from paint or hardware shop).
Sticky residue from cooking oil	Use recommended cleaner. If deposit is hard to remove, try mineral turpentine on a rag.

Spillages	Procedure
Toilet Cleaners, Oven Cleaners, Battery Acid, Hardeners (for glue), Hydrogen Peroxide etc.	Wipe up the spill immediately, taking care not to spread the liquid. Wash with cold water to remove all traces of the spill and wipe dry.

Note 1: Avoid wiping the bench with dirty washing up water. This can leave a fine film of fat or cooking oil which may build up over time to make the bench sticky. Note 2: Solvents like methylated spirits and acetone are highly flammable. Use with proper caution.

NB: Dark colours from the Laminex® and Formica® ranges are not recommended in high use areas.

THE laminex GROUP

The Laminex Group
24-26 O'Rorke Rd, Penrose Auckland
Customer Services Ph 0800 303 606, Fax 0800 303 707
Website: www.thelaminexgroup.co.nz

Laminex® and Formica® are marketed, distributed and manufactured by The Laminex Group. A division of FLETCHER BUILDING PRODUCTS LIMITED.

LG0089 0605