



Solid Surfacing

USE AND CARE GUIDE



10-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

Remember, as the owner of Formica® Solid Surfacing you're protected against material or manufacturing defects, assuring long-term performance. If your dealer or installer has not provided you with a copy of your warranty and registration card, ask them for it or visit our Website at www.formica.com.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

If you have further questions about the care, performance, or appearance of your Formica® Solid Surfacing, contact your authorized dealer or fabricator.



Solid Surfacing

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For more information or the name of your nearest distributor call:
1-800-Formica™ or visit www.formica.com.



A LITTLE CARE GOES A LONG WAY

Formica® Solid Surfacing is an elegant material available in a variety of colors and granite-like patterns. It gives a rich, luxurious feeling to kitchen counters, work islands, wet bars, vanity tops, windowsills, tabletops, and many other applications.

Formica® Solid Surfacing is not only one of the most beautiful surfacing materials available today, but also one of the most durable. A product of sophisticated modern technology, Formica® Solid Surfacing is resistant to heat, stains, bacteria, and impact. It is nonporous, with the same color and pattern running throughout its thickness. This combination of features provides a deep, rich appearance that's easy to care for, so its beauty can be preserved for years to come.

Do not use over-the-counter cleaners that contain strong acids (e.g. cleaners for tile, grout, ceramic stove tops, toilet bowls, etc.).

We recommend using either Countertop Magic or Plexus as polishes you can put on your Formica® Solid Surfacing countertop to enhance the shine.

We do not recommend using Hope's polish.

NORMAL CLEANING – LIGHT COLORS WITH A MATTE OR SATIN FINISH:

Formica® Solid Surfacing is nonporous and can be easily wiped clean with a damp cloth or sponge and mild detergents or general purpose cleaner such as Mr. Clean® or Lestoil®. If you have a Matte finish, abrasive cleansers like Ajax® or Comet® may also be used. Periodically, it may also be helpful to go over the entire surface with an abrasive cleanser or a wet 7447 Scotch-Brite® pad (if Matte finish) or a wet 7448 Scotch-Brite® pad (if Satin finish) to maintain a uniform appearance. Rinse with water and towel dry.

NORMAL CLEANING – DARK COLORS WITH A SEMI-GLOSS OR GLOSS FINISH:

Dark colors usually have a higher gloss than a Matte finish. Maintenance is generally limited to wiping with a mild detergent on a damp cloth and wiping dry.

SOME SIMPLE PRECAUTIONS: Do not place hot pans directly from the burner or oven on the countertop surface. Even though Formica® Solid Surfacing can withstand up to 175° F, prolonged or extreme heat could cause damage to the surface. A trivet should always be used under all heated appliances, such as crock pots, electric fry pans, coffee pots, etc. Extreme temperature swings should be avoided. When pouring hot water (from boiling pasta, potatoes, etc.) into sink, always run warm water to reduce temperature extremes.

Do not use your countertop as a cutting board. Although minor cuts and scratches on a matte finish can be repaired by the consumer, deep cuts and high gloss finished tops will require the service of a professional, which is an extra expense. (An extra piece of Formica® Solid Surfacing from your fabricator makes an excellent cutting board to protect your counter.)

Do not stand or sit on your countertop.

SPILLS AND STAINS: While most everyday spills can be removed with the cleaning techniques listed, some troublesome spills and stains such as food dye, tea and fruit drinks may require more aggressive cleaning. These items can be removed using full-strength bleach for two to five minutes, followed by a general cleaner and flushing with water. On Matte finish, if you prefer you can scrub with an abrasive cleanser.

Even nail polish can be removed with nail polish remover or an abrasive cleanser.

Strong acids such as those found in drain, toilet bowl and oven cleaners should be used cautiously around Formica® Solid Surfacing. If these items are accidentally spilled, wipe them up at once and rinse with water. Some of these items, if left on the surface, may cause whitening, which can be difficult to remove.

Should a lighted cigarette accidentally come in contact with the surface, it could leave a nicotine stain or a scorch mark. Either of these can be removed by cleaning with an abrasive cleanser or buffing with a Scotch-Brite® pad.

REMOVING SCRATCHES: (not recommended for dark colors)

MATTE FINISH | Sand with 220-grit sandpaper on sanding block. Use small circular motions until scratch is gone. Blend finish with an abrasive cleanser and a maroon 7447 Scotch-Brite® Pad.

SATIN FINISH | Sand with 320-grit sandpaper on sanding block. Use small circular motions until the scratch is gone. Blend finish with Soft Scrub® Cleanser (or equivalent) and a gray 7448 Scotch-Brite® pad.

SEMI-GLOSS FINISH | Sand with 600-grit sandpaper on sanding block. Use small circular motions until the scratch is gone. Blend finish with a nonabrasive cleanser and a white 7445 Scotch-Brite® pad.

POLISHED FINISH | Specialized tooling is required to achieve a high-gloss finish. Please contact your professional fabricator for assistance. Maintenance is limited to cleaning with mild detergents or nonabrasive countertop cleaners and a soft cloth.

Should the above maintenance steps create a variation in the surface finish, proceed with the final blending step over the entire countertop surface.

Mr. Clean, Lestoil, Ajax, Comet, Scotch-Brite and Soft Scrub are all trademarks of their respective owners.