

Care and Maintenance of High Pressure Laminates by Lab Designs Laminates

Daily/Weekly/Routine Care: Following the steps below will allow for years of beautiful, low-maintenance surfaces.

1. For everyday cleaning of the surface, simply wipe the surface with a soft damp cloth and mild detergent; then rinse with warm water and wipe dry. Using sprays such as Windex, Glass Plus, Mr. Clean, 409, and other household cleaners are allowed. It's best to spray the cleaning agent onto your cloth and then wipe the laminate down. If you spray cleaner directly onto the laminate surface, do not let the spray sit on the laminate for an extended time. It's important to wipe it down right away. Always test your cleaning products on a concealed spot of the laminate before applying to the full surface.
2. More stubborn stains like coffee and tea can be cleaned using a non-abrasive soft bristled brush and an all-purpose household detergent or cleaning agent. Rinse thoroughly with warm water and wipe dry. Repeat, if necessary. Using an abrasive cleaning product or abrasive pads will damage the finish. Always test your cleaning products on a concealed spot of the laminate before applying to the full surface.
3. Persistent stains can be treated with a paste made from baking soda and water. Apply paste using a damp cloth or a non-abrasive soft bristled brush. It is critical not to use too much force with the brush as it could damage the decorative surface or the finish. Damage from abrasive products can sometimes be masked by using a wax based product like Pledge or by applying lemon oil. Always test your cleaning products on a concealed spot of the laminate before applying to the full surface.
4. For stains that do not react to steps one, two, or three, nail polish remover or diluted household bleach can be applied. Do not let stand for more than one minute. Rinse thoroughly with warm water and wipe dry. This step can be repeated if the laminate remained unchanged from the first round. It is best to test the nail polish remover or diluted household bleach first in a concealed spot on the laminate if possible before trying on the stain. Extended exposure of nail polish remover and diluted household bleach to a decorative laminate surface can cause discoloration.
5. Hot items, such as appliances that produce heat and hot pans, should not be left on a laminate directly. Always use a potholder, oven mitt, hot pad, trivet, or some other shield to protect the surface of the laminate.
6. Do not use steel wool, rust removers, coffee pot cleaners, hydrogen peroxide, toilet cleaners, ceramic cook top cleaners, lime/scale removers, oven cleaners, Drano (or other drain cleaning products), pumice stones, lye, or acid of any kind on laminate. Do not leave rags or other items soaked in any of these products sitting on the laminate. These can all cause irreparable permanent damage. Hair dye, fabric dye, and food coloring can stain laminate. Wipe up spills immediately.
7. Do not place hot items directly onto the laminate. It can cause discoloration, damage to the finish, and cracking.