

# Laminate Benchtop Care

## Care & Maintenance (Supplied by Formica and Laminex)

### Do's and Don'ts

- Don't place electrical appliances or pots straight from the oven/cooker directly onto your laminate Benchtop. Also do not place slow cookers or heat sources over any joins.
- Avoid scourers and abrasives – they will damage the surface.
- Keep waxes and polishes well away. They merely dull the natural shine.
- Don't cut directly on Formica laminate surfaces.
- Don't place burning cigarettes onto Formica laminate surfaces.
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**Streaks.** Streaky marks sometimes show on dark colours and gloss surfaces after cleaning. Muscle® Surface & Glass, Windex® or Ajax Spray n Wipe spray cleaners should wipe them away.

**Grease.** Clean, soapy water will deal with greasy marks. Dab, wait and wipe away. Finish off with Mr Muscle® Surface & Glass, Windex® or Ajax Spray n Wipe spray cleaners.

**Spills.** Formica laminate surfaces resist staining from most household chemicals. With some accidental spills, however, you must take prompt action. Wipe off beetroot, grape and berry juices, first aid preparations, concentrated bleach, oven cleaners, dishwasher detergents and artificial dyes or hair colouring immediately. Specialty glue types such as Super Glue must also be removed immediately with acetone (nail polish remover). Note: some solvent based texture pens may leave permanent marks unless removed immediately.

**Stains.** Methylated spirits, acetone, paint thinners or 2 – 3 light rubs with a cream cleanser can be used on stubborn stains. Use a light scrubbing brush if necessary. Note: Always be careful on laminate joins and edges, as these products can break down the adhesive used to bond your Formica laminate to the substrate.

**Scratches.** Formica laminate surfaces will withstand normal wear and tear, but can be damaged by scratching or cutting with utensils, knives and unglazed pottery. Darker colours and gloss surfaces will show scratches more readily than lighter colours. To minimise scratching, always place and lift objects from the surface – never drag or slide them across the surface.

**Joins, hobs and sinks.** Water drainage (important). The areas around the sink, hobs and joins are all vulnerable to excess liquid and are moisture resistant only. They will not tolerate water left on them for any length of time. Water must be wiped up straight away. By not doing this the top will swell and is not repairable, the top will not be covered by warranty.

### Laminate Surface Finish

Solid Colour & Pattern laminates Velour and Gloss finish

Solid Colour & Pattern laminates Textured Finishes

Metallic finish  
(Note Metallics are not generally recommended for horizontal surfaces)

### Care and Maintenance

A damp cloth removes spills and greasy spots. Rub with a clean, dry cloth to bring back brightness. Occasionally clean with warm soapy water. To remove heavy build-up of dirt use Mr Muscle® Surface & Glass, Windex® or Ajax Spray n Wipe spray cleaners.

As above with the addition of a soft brush or tooth brush for ingrained spills.

Wipe off spills or marks promptly with a soft cloth and warm soapy water. Never use abrasive cleaners, even those in liquid form, as they will impair the surface. Never use solvents on metallic laminates.