



## **MAINTENANCE & CARE GUIDE**

for

## **CABINET FINISHES**

- Melamine
- Laminate
- Thermofoil
- P.E.T. & Acrylics
  - Paint
  - Wood

Melamine is a decorative paper pressed between melamine resin and particle board to produce a panel that is further processed by cutting and applying a matching edgeband material (typically PVC). Melamine is used for case bodies, drawers and cabinet doors.

## GENERAL USE

Melamine is a durable, hard surface that will last many years if properly cared for. Do not use sharp objects that could impact the surface and cause chipping. Keep away from heat sources to prevent the edgebanding from de-laminating, and extra care should be taken to keep away from liquids, as the particle board core will swell if exposed to moisture.

Over time scratches will appear from normal use. To help hide these scratches, buff with a non-oily furniture polish or use WD40®. For deeper gouges, nicks and scratches, wax color fill sticks can mask the damaged area very well, and will seal it to prevent further damage caused by moisture.

## CLEANING

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or detergent. Stains such as coffee or tea can be cleaned using a soft bristle brush. Difficult stains may require the use of diluted household bleach or nail polish remover. Let the stain soak for no longer than two minutes, then clean with a damp cloth or sponge, ensuring that all of the residues have been removed. Lacquer thinner or acetone may also be used for difficult stains, but always be sure to rinse off all residues.

The following chemicals will stain or damage melamine permanently: hair, textile and food dyes, acidic or abrasive cleaners, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, rust cleaners and toilet bowl cleaners. If spilled accidentally, be sure to clean immediately with a damp cloth several times.

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Laminate is a decorative paper pressed between melamine resin and phenolic sheets at high pressure. Laminate is then shop applied to a particle board or plywood substrate with a balanced backer. Laminate is a widely used material for commercial millwork and institutional casework.

Laminate will shrink and expand with environmental changes in temperature and humidity. If seams open up from time to time, this is considered normal. To avoid damaging the core during exposure, fill the seam with a clear silicone.

## GENERAL USE

Laminate is a durable, hard surface that has a greater impact resistance than melamine and will last many years if properly cared for. Do not use sharp objects that could impact the surface and cause chipping. Keep away from heat sources to prevent the edgebanding and surface from de-laminating, and extra care should be taken to keep away from liquids, as the particle board core will swell if exposed to moisture.

Over time scratches will appear from normal use. To help hide these scratches, buff with a non-oily furniture polish or use WD40®. For deeper gouges, nicks and scratches, wax color fill sticks can mask the damaged area very well, and will seal it to prevent further damage caused by moisture.

## CLEANING

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or detergent. Stains such as coffee or tea can be cleaned using a soft bristle brush. Difficult stains may require the use of diluted household bleach or nail polish remover. Let the stain soak for no longer than two minutes, then clean with a damp cloth or sponge, ensuring that all of the residues have been removed. Lacquer thinner or acetone may also be used for difficult stains, but always be sure to rinse off all residues.

The following chemicals will stain or damage laminate permanently: hair, textile and food dyes, acidic or abrasive cleaners, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, rust cleaners and toilet bowl cleaners. If spilled accidentally, be sure to clean immediately with a damp cloth several times.

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Thermofoil is a flexible vinyl overlay that is applied to MDF with heat and vacuum. This finish is commonly used for cabinet doors, finished ends and decorative mouldings. Thermofoil is a durable, surface that has excellent chip resistance and has a seamless front edge for added protection from water penetrating the surface.

## GENERAL USE

It is recommended that a filler or heat shield be installed between any door and drawer front and a range. Due to extremely high temperatures from self-cleaning ovens, it is advised to remove all doors and drawer fronts near the self-cleaning oven when the oven is in self-cleaning mode, as exposure to temperatures above 85 °C is not covered by warranty.

Also be careful with use of small hot appliances near your cabinetry. Heat from appliances such as toasters and hot steam from coffee makers may cause damage to your cabinetry if used directly near or under your cabinetry. Please pull appliances out so that direct heat does not contact your cabinet doors.

For nicks and scratches, wax color fill sticks can mask the damaged area very well, and will seal it to prevent further damage caused by moisture.

## CLEANING

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or detergent to clean surfaces and always rinse and dry surfaces after cleaning. The following chemicals will stain or damage thermofoil permanently: hair, textile and food dyes, acidic or abrasive cleaners, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, rust cleaners and toilet bowl cleaners. If spilled accidentally, be sure to clean immediately with a damp cloth several times.

Do not use abrasive pads, cleaners, harsh detergents, ammonia solutions, glass cleaner, powdered cleaners, lacquer thinners or any products containing acetone.

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P.E.T. (polyethylene terephthalate), also known as a form of polyester, and acrylics are applied to an MDF core to create sheet goods for further processing by cutting and applying a matching edgeband material (typically PVC). These are premium surfaces that are available in a variety of sheens that require extra care.

## GENERAL USE

P.E.T. and acrylic are durable, hard surfaces that will last many years if properly cared for. Do not use sharp or abrasive objects that could impact the surface and cause chipping. Keep away from heat sources to prevent the edgebanding from de-laminating, and extra care should be taken to keep away from liquids, as the MDF core will swell if exposed to moisture.

Over time, scratches may appear from normal use. To help hide these scratches, buff with a non-oily furniture polish or use WD40®. For deeper gouges, nicks and scratches, wax color fill sticks can mask the damaged area very well, and will seal it to prevent further damage caused by moisture.

## CLEANING

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or detergent to clean surfaces and always rinse and dry surfaces after cleaning. The following chemicals will stain or damage P.E.T and acrylic surfaces permanently: hair, textile and food dyes, acidic or abrasive cleaners, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, rust cleaners and toilet bowl cleaners. If spilled accidentally, be sure to clean immediately with a damp cloth several times.

Do not use abrasive pads, cleaners, harsh detergents, ammonia solutions, glass cleaner, powdered cleaners, lacquer thinners or any products containing acetone.

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Our paint process is 100% water based, creating a hard surface for great durability. Extra care must be taken on smooth paint to avoid scratches, and textured paint is more durable as the scratches are not as noticeable. Darker colors tend to show scratches easier.

## GENERAL USE

Do not use sharp or abrasive objects that could impact the surface and cause chipping. Keep away from heat sources to prevent discoloration, and extra care should be taken to keep away from liquids, as the MDF core will swell if exposed to moisture.

Over time, scratches may appear from normal use. To help hide these scratches, buff with newspaper or use a non-oily furniture polish. For deeper gouges, nicks and scratches, wax color fill sticks or touch up paint can mask the damaged area very well, and will seal it to prevent further damage caused by moisture.

## CLEANING

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or detergent to clean surfaces and always rinse and dry surfaces after cleaning. The following chemicals will stain or damage painted surfaces permanently: hair, textile and food dyes, acidic or abrasive cleaners, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, rust cleaners and toilet bowl cleaners. If spilled accidentally, be sure to clean immediately with a damp cloth several times.

Do not use abrasive pads, cleaners, harsh detergents, ammonia solutions, glass cleaner, powdered cleaners, lacquer thinners or any products containing acetone.

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Wood Products refers to solid wood and wood veneer panels on a particleboard, MDF or plywood veneer core. Used on case work, countertops, panels and trims. Wood species normally include Oak, Maple, Birch, Cherry, Pine and Walnut with a stain and lacquer finish, or a clear lacquer finish only.

## **GENERAL USE**

Do not use sharp or abrasive objects that could impact the surface and cause scratches or chipping. Keep away from heat sources to prevent discoloration, and extra care should be taken to keep away from liquids, as the core will swell if exposed to moisture.

Over time, scratches may appear from normal use. To help hide these scratches, buff with newspaper or use a non-oily furniture polish. For deeper gouges, nicks and scratches, wax color fill sticks or touch up paint can mask the damaged area very well, and will seal it to prevent further damage caused by moisture.

## **CLEANING**

Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild soap or detergent. Stains such as coffee or tea can be cleaned using a soft bristle brush. Windex may also be used for minor stains and cleaning.

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