

# AbsoluteMatte® Benchtops

## Care & Maintenance

AbsoluteMatte® benchtops have a fingerprint resistant surface that requires special cleaning considerations. To retain the fingerprint resistance functionality, it is important that the surface is regularly cleaned of food scraps and oily residues. If your surface is contaminated with oils, the fingerprint resistance property will be prevented from operating effectively. Note that the fingerprint resistance functionality of the AbsoluteMatte surface is limited to normal fingerprint sebum. Fingerprints which are heavily contaminated with oils, fats, or commercial greases will remain evident as glossy stains on the AbsoluteMatte surface.

### General Cleaning Instructions

Note	Details		
	<p><b>STEP 1</b> USE a mild dishwashing liquid diluted in clean, warm water to remove greasy marks. Dab with a microfibre cloth, wait and wipe away. Final wipe down with a clean dry cloth (microfibre cloth for best results).</p> <p><b>STEP 2</b> USE Methylated Spirits or Isopropyl Alcohol (“rubbing alcohol”) on a clean microfibre cloth to remove oily marks and fingerprints that may disrupt the surface appearance. Dry with a clean dry cloth (microfibre cloth for best results) after any cleaning. Repeat if necessary. <b>Note:</b> Dark colours are more susceptible to showing streaks.</p> <p><b>STEP 3</b> USE Windex GLASS cleaner if required to resolve any streaky marks left from cleaning STEPS 1 &amp; 2.</p>		
<b>Day to Day Cleaning</b>	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use “Spray & Wipe” or similar spray style cleaners as these are found to cause glossy marks on the unique AbsoluteMatte surface.	Claims arising from damaged, dull or etched surfaces are not protected under warranty.
	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use solvents, strongly acidic (e.g. vinegar) or alkaline cleaners.	Claims arising from damaged, dull or etched surfaces are not protected under warranty.
	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use commercial cleaning agents as they can contain higher concentrations of strong chemicals.	Claims arising from high impact or high traffic installations are not protected under warranty
	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use waxes or polishes as they can change the surface gloss level.	Claims arising from bow, warp or twisting are not covered by warranty
	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use any product containing high levels of bleach, ammonia, or any solvents or thinners.	Claims arising from colour variation, including products with different UV or aging stabilities, are not covered under warranty
	<b>W</b>	NEVER use abrasive cleaners – even those in liquid form – as they will mark the surface.	Claims arising from staining or damage attributable to not following Care & Maintenance instructions, are not covered under warranty
<b>Rejuvenate the Surface</b> <i>(for occasional cleaning)</i>	<p>If any stains remain from the above cleaning processes, use a melamine sponge with a small amount of dishwashing liquid in clean water to gently spot clean any residual marks on the surface. Gently clean the entire panel using the melamine sponge, regularly rinsing the sponge in clean, soapy water to remove oils. Once stains are removed, use the melamine sponge to wipe down the entire panel in parallel sweeps. Allow to air dry. Melamine sponges are available from supermarkets and hardware stores and are typically white in colour and often marketed as “magic sponges” or “magic erasers”. (Be careful not to use a scourer sponge or crème cleanser (e.g. Jif) on the AbsoluteMatte surface as these will abrade the surface and cause permanent damage).</p>		

**W** Denotes specific warranty conditions apply

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<b>Managing Surface Spills</b>	<b>W</b>	IMMEDIATELY clean spills that contain strong pigments or colourants (artificial or natural), such as: beetroot, turmeric and strongly coloured spice preparations, artificial dyes, hair colouring and solvent based pen ink.	Claims arising from staining due to artificial or natural pigments are not protected under warranty.
	<b>W</b>	IMMEDIATELY clean spills that contain chemicals (artificial or natural), that can etch the surface, such as: grape and berry juices, first aid preparations, concentrated bleach, oven cleaners and concentrated dishwasher detergents and blocks.	Claims arising from chemical surface damage are not protected under warranty.
	<b>W</b>	IMMEDIATE action is required to remove specialty glues such as Super Glue. Remove straight away with non- acetone nail polish remover. Wash effected area down with water and dry with a soft cloth. If glue has dried, first try gently removing with a plastic (not metal) scraper.	
<b>CAUTION!</b>	<b>Common Household staining agents include but are not limited to: Turmeric, Curry &amp; Spice Mix, Bottled Sauce &amp; Condiment mixtures with strong colouring, Beetroot, Coloured cordial bases including frozen ices, Medical preparations e.g. Betadine, Marker pens, Hair &amp; Cosmetic Dyes, Leaking batteries.</b>		
<b>Removing Stubborn Surface Stains</b>	<b>IMPORTANT</b> Please note that use of bleach or abrasive cleaners may irreversibly damage the decorative surface. The warranty will not protect against surface damage from these extreme cleaning methods, caution is advised.		
	<b>W</b>	If a stain cannot be removed with warm soapy water, try Methylated spirits or Isopropyl Alcohol. Dab the stain, leave for 3 minutes then wash off with clean, soapy water (dilute dishwashing liquid) and dry. Finish off with a clean dry cloth (microfibre cloth for best results).	
<b>Water Marks</b>	The minerals in water may leave visible trace marks particularly on dark surfaces and gloss finishes. Always dry water from surfaces with a clean dry cloth. Microfibre cloths are particularly effective for simple routine maintenance of this condition		

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Note	Details		
<b>Prevention Tips</b>	<b>IMPORTANT</b> In caring for your decorative surfaces, prevention is the best way to look after your investment.		
<b>Dark Surfaces</b>	Darker colours will show scratches & marking more readily than lighter colours and therefore require more care and maintenance.		
<b>Preventing Scratches</b>	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use scouring pads, metal brushes, steel wool or abrasive/gritty cleaners (even those in liquid form) as they will damage the surface.	
	<b>W</b>	DO NOT cut directly on the surface. Always use a cutting board.	
	<b>W</b>	DO NOT drag or slide objects (including: utensils, knives and unglazed pottery) across the surface. Always place and lift objects from the surface.	
<b>Preventing Heat Damage</b>	<b>W</b>	DO NOT place hot objects, electrical appliances or pots straight from the oven or cooktop on to the Laminex decorative surface. Always use a protective heat pad or trivet with rubber feet.	Care should be taken with oversize pots and pans that protrude past the cooktop particularly with gas appliances. Heat may deflect onto the decorative benchtop surface. Damage caused by excessive heat is not protected under warranty.
<b>Preventing Chemical Damage</b>	<b>W</b>	DO NOT use any of the following products to clean or permit contact with your Laminex decorative surface: Commercial Cleaning Products, Undiluted bleach, Oven Cleaner, Toilet Cleaners, Solvents, Thinners, Turpentine, Graffiti Cleaners (including Easy-Off BAM, Muck Off), Ammonia, Acetone, Jewellery Cleaning Solutions, Petrol, Acids, Rust & Limescale Remover including CLR.	When using your decorative surface as a work area, exposure to a range of potentially damaging products is possible. Use protective mats or boards, keeping these in the area nearby for ease of access and always using them to protect the surface. Attend to any chemical spill immediately and flush the area with water as soon as noticed.

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