

## Nikpol Laminates

### Cleaning and Care Instructions

#### Cleaning

Due to the resistant and hygienic, dense surface, Nikpol Laminate does not require any special form of care. The laminate surfaces consists of melamine resin impregnated decor paper and the surfaces are generally easy to clean. This also applies to textured surfaces. There is no need to use any care products. Furniture polishes and cleaning agents that contain wax should not be used as they have a tendency to clog up the surface structure of laminates and to form a sticky layer that attracts dirt. Nikpol Laminate surfaces should be cleaned regularly. When cleaning is necessary, mild agents should be used. Cleaning agents must in particular not contain any abrasive components, as they may adversely affect the surface of the laminate. As many kinds of soiling can occur, from slight and fresh to heavy and obstinate, and a huge range of different substances may be involved, it is essential to use the correct cleaning procedure. Because there are so many different possibilities, please refer to the table (see page 3). This table lists cleaning instructions and examples that clarify specific problems relating to different kinds of soiling. Obviously, the least harsh method should always be tried first when attempting to clean the surface.

#### Maintenance

As a general rule spilled substances such as tea, coffee and wine etc. should be cleaned immediately as the cleaning effort increases if they are left to dry. The following instructions should be observed in daily use:

- Placing burning cigarettes on the laminate surface leads to surface damage. Always use an ashtray.
- Laminate surfaces should not be used as a cutting surface as this can also leave cutting marks on highly resistant laminate surfaces. Always use a chopping board and avoid dragging utensils and crockery across the surface.
- Placing hot cooking utensils such as saucepans and frying pans directly from the hob or oven onto the laminate surface should be avoided, as, depending on the heat exposure, a change in the gloss appearance or damage to the surface can arise. Always use heat resistant mats.
- Spilled liquids should always be cleaned up immediately, especially in the areas around cut-outs and joints as prolonged exposure to some substances may cause a change in the gloss appearance of the laminate surface.

These recommendations apply especially to matt and gloss laminate surfaces. These have a distinctive look and feel, but have a greater tendency to show wear and tear. Nikpol laminates essentially conform to Nikpol's high quality standards as well as the applicable Standards and Regulations. Nikpol laminates are tested according to EN 438-2 in respect of all the relevant quality requirements.

The various laminate qualities required for particular application areas conform to these requirements. For use/application areas, quality requirements, technical data and supply formats, please refer to the individual data sheets.

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Stubborn stains can be removed by using a 70% methylated spirit-based product to remove tough stains and marks. Apply the product to a micro fibre cloth (non-abrasive) on a non-porous surface.

When using as a stain remover, spot test on a small, inconspicuous area to ensure product does not damage.

**Warning!** Nikpol Laminate surfaces must be cleaned regularly throughout their service life! There is no need to use any care products! Do not use scouring or abrasive agents (abrasive powders, steel wool), polishes, waxes, furniture cleaners or bleach. Do not use cleaning products which contain strong acids or strong acidic salts, e.g. limescale removers based on formic acid and aminosulphuric acid, drain cleaners, hydrochloric acid, silver cleaners or oven cleaners. When cleaning with solvents: observe the accident prevention regulations! Open the window! No naked flames!

#### Provisional Note:

This technical datasheet has been carefully drawn up to the best of our knowledge. The information provided is based on practical experience, in-house testing and reflects our current level of knowledge. It is intended for information only and does not constitute a guarantee in terms of product properties or its suitability for specific applications. We accept no liability for any mistakes, errors in standards, or printing errors. In addition, technical modifications may result from the continuous development of Nikpol laminates, as well as from changes to standards and public law documents. The contents of this technical data sheet should therefore not be considered as instructions for use or as legally binding. Our General Terms and Conditions apply.

| Source of mark   | Degree of soiling  |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
|--|--------------------|----|------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|----|----|----|--|----|--|----|
|  | Light recent marks |    | Normal soiling, of longer duration |    | Hard, stubborn marks; old stains |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 1. Dust, Dirt, Dust/Grease mixture, Pencil, Chalk  | L1                 |    | N1                                 |    | N2                               | N3 | H1 |    |  |    |  |    |
| 2. Chalk residue, Chalk rims (Water rims), Rust  |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  | H2 |  |    |
| 3. Coffee, Tea, Fruit juice, Sugar solutions   |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 4. Grease, Oil, Fingermarks, Felt-pen, Marker-pen, Ballpoint pen, Nicotine deposits, (Tar residues), Rubber marks    |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 5. Wax residues (candle-grease, separating agents for presses), Wax crayon   |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 6. Lipstick, Shoe polish, Floor polish, Wax polish, All-purpose stick  |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 7. Bacteriological stains (Soap residues, skin excretions, germs, blood, urine, vomit)                               |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 8. Dark patches appearing after treatment with solvents (streaks)  |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 9. Water colours, Corrosives, Disperse, Dyes, Water-soluble adhesives, Dispersion media (PVC)                        |                    |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  |    |
| 10. Varnishes containing solvents, dyes and adhesives (varnish residues, varnish sprays, colour sprays, marking ink) | L3                 | L2 | N6                                 | N7 | N4                               | N5 | H3 | H4 |  |    |  |    |
| 11. Dual-constituent varnishes and adhesives, Synthetic resins (e.g. polyurethane resins)                            | L4                 |    | N8                                 |    |                                  |    |    |    |  |    |  | H5 |
| 12. Silicone, Sealants, Furniture polish   | L5                 |    |                                    |    |                                  |    |    | N9 |  |    |  |    |

## Cleaning recommendation

|    |   |    |  |    |   |
|----|---|----|--|----|---|
| L1 | Use paper towels; soft, clean cloths (dry or damp); sponge or similar. After using a damp cloth, wipe down afterwards with absorbent paper towels.  | N2 | Organic solvents (e.g. acetone, spirits, petrol, trichlorethylene, MEK). Nail varnish remover.   | H1 | Soak overnight using detergent or a washing powder and water paste. Liquid cleaning product containing calcium carbonate. A mild solution of bleach may be used, but with extreme caution. N.B. Use liquid cleaning products containing calcium carbonate or bleach only very occasionally. |
| L2 | Important: Streaks usually occur when cleaning with organic solvents, or using cold water, dirty cloths, or window leathers. To avoid dark patches or streaks when cleaning, a hot water rinse is recommended, followed by wiping dry with household paper towels.  | N3 | Carefully remove wax or paraffin by hand. Avoid scrapers use plastic or wooden spatulas. Remove any residue using absorbent paper and flatiron.  | H2 | Certain chalk residues may be removable by an acidic cleaning agent (e.g. 10% acetic or citric acid).   |
| L3 | Organic solvents  | N4 | Additional treatment with disinfectant as appropriate.   | H3 | Soften with water or organic solvent, then peel or pull off.  |
| L4 | Remove immediately (using water or Organic solvent)   | N5 | Water or organic solvent   | H4 | Colour residues can sometimes be removed by hand after hardening.   |
| L5 | Rub off dry-use silicone remover  | N6 | Organic solvents, e.g. acetone, spirits, petrol, trichlorethylene, MEK When using adhesives or varnishes in manufacturing, consultation with the makers is recommended, to discover the cleaning agents best suited for removing soiling which might occur during fabrication. | H5 | No cleaning possible! Residues of condensation adhesives or reagent adhesives can no longer be removed.   |
| N1 | Use clean hot water, clean cloths or towels, soft sponge or brush (e.g. nylon brush). Use normal cleaning agent without abrasive constituent, washing powder (especially heavy duty detergent), liquid soap or hard soap. Remove dirt with solution of solution of cleaning agent, or let it soak according to the degree of soiling, then wash off with clean water or glass cleaner. Wipe several times if necessary. | N7 | Cleaning is possible only before hardening takes place; Remove at once using water or organic solvent.   |    |   |
|    |   | N8 | Silicone remover   |    |   |

## MAINTENANCE & CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

### EVERYDAY MAINTENANCE AND REMOVAL OF COMMON STAINS

As with any other material for interior design, a **motivi** surface should be cleaned regularly. It does not require any special maintenance, just a damp cloth with warm water or a mild detergent. Almost all regular household cleaning products or disinfectants can be safely used. For the most common stains, you can simply clean the surface with warm water using a non-abrasive cloth. Tougher stains can be removed with non-abrasive household cleaners or solvents.

For older, dried or caked-on stains, use a magic sponge or soft cloth to remove them. After using any solvents, we recommend rinsing the surface with warm water and a detergent. Always rinse thoroughly to remove the detergent with clean water, preferably warm.

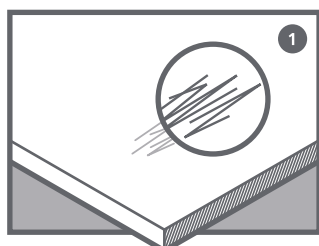
### STUBBORN STAINS AND MINOR SCRATCHES

SoftTouch surfaces have a unique non-porous external layer, allowing you to keep it neat with simple, everyday care and cleaning methods. In case of stubborn stains, we recommend the use of a specific cleaning agent (as per the table reported on next page) to remove any trace of the stain.

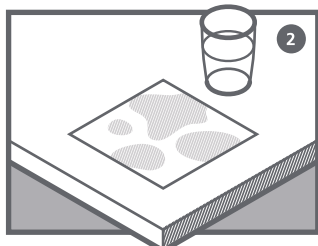
In case of micro-scratches, please refer to the MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS for the surfaces as illustrated below.

### MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

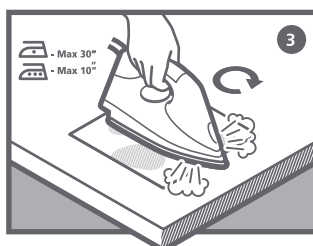
#### IRON



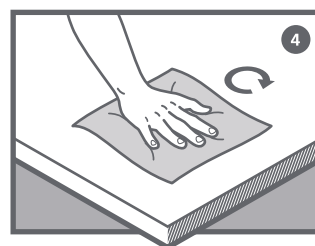
1. Superficial defects caused by micro-scratches.



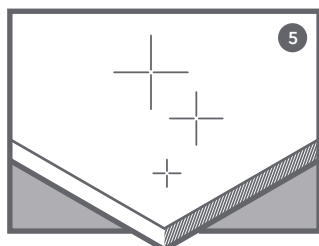
2. Place a dampened sheet of kitchen roll over the area where the micro-scratches can be seen.



3. Place the hot iron on the surface that needs repairing. Do not leave the iron on the surface for more than 10 seconds at a time.



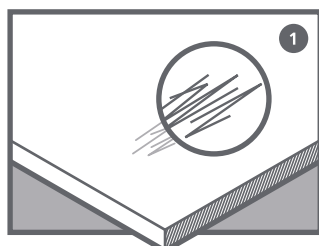
4. Rinse the repaired area with lukewarm water and a microfibre cloth.



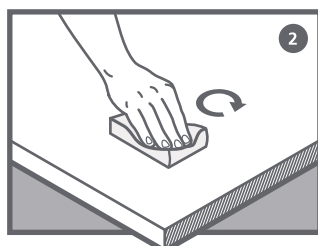
5. The surface should now be healed.

### MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

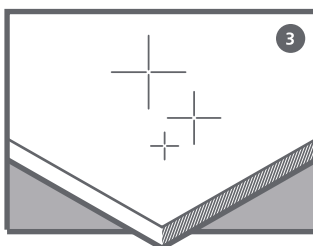
#### MAGIC SPONGE



1. Superficial defects caused by micro-scratches.



2. Rub the magic sponge on the area where the micro-scratches can be seen. The sponge can be used dry or slightly damp.



3. The surface should now be healed.

### USEFUL CLEANING ADVICE

For the best results when cleaning **motivi**, it is important to remember the following advice:

- although very resistant, a **motivi** surface must still never be treated with products containing abrasive substances, macroabrasive sponges or unsuitable materials such as sandpaper or steel wool;
- strongly acidic or alkaline products should be avoided because they can stain the surface;
- bleach and heavily-chlorinated products should be avoided because they can degrade the surface. Sodium hypochlorite should be used at concentrations lower than 5%, and for no more than 5 minutes at a time, then rinsed off with a sponge or towel;
- hydrogen peroxide at concentrations lower than 3% should be carefully rinsed off. For concentrations higher than 3%, we recommend avoiding leaving this solution in contact with the surface for more than 10 minutes at a time, and the surface must be thoroughly rinsed with a non-abrasive sponge and then dried well;
- when using solvents, the cloth used must be perfectly clean so as not to leave marks on the **motivi** surface. Any marks may, however, be removed by rinsing with hot water and drying well;
- do not use furniture polish or wax-based cleaners in general, because they tend to form a sticky layer on the **motivi** surface that attracts and traps dirt;
- do not use metal scrapers, iron brushes or any other metal tool to remove stains, paint, plaster or other substances from the surface.

**NOTE:** CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS AVAILABLE ON NEXT PAGE

| CATEGORY                          | TYPE OF STAIN   | AGE     |                     |          |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------|---------------------|----------|
|                                   |   | LIGHT   | MODERATE AND RECENT | STUBBORN |
| EVERYDAY<br>DIRT                  | Dust, dirt in general, mixed dust and grease  | 1       | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Fingerprints, nicotine stains, rubber marks   | 3       | 4*                  | 4*       |
|                                   | Traces and marks of limescale, rust   | 2       | 5                   | 5        |
|                                   | Black smoke   | 2       | 2                   | 2        |
| FOODS<br>&<br>DRINKS              | Syrup, fruit or vegetable juice   | 1 or 2  | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Sugar syrup, jam, caramel   | 1 or 2  | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Spirits, milk, tea, coffee, wine, beer  | 1 or 2  | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Animal and vegetable fats and oils  | 3       | 4*                  | 4*       |
|                                   | Sauces, eggs  | 3       | 4*                  | 4*       |
|                                   | Gelatin, organic residues, gum arabic   | 2       | 2                   | 2        |
| CLEANERS<br>&<br>POLISHES         | Detergents, soap  | 1 or 2  | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Furniture and floor polish  | 3       | 3                   | 4**      |
|                                   | Shoe polish   | 3       | 3                   | 4**      |
| PAINTS<br>&<br>INKS               | Pencil marks and chalk  | 1       | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Pen ink and markers, tar  | 4**     | 4**                 | 4**      |
|                                   | Synthetic oil paint   | 9 + 10  | 10                  | 10       |
|                                   | Watercolour paint, colours and adhesive soluble in water or in aqueous dispersion (vegetable and vinyl) | 2       | 2                   | 2        |
|                                   | Graffiti, paint spray, paint, etc.  | 9 + 12  | 12                  | 12       |
| COSMETICS                         | Lipstick  | 3       | 3                   | 4**      |
|                                   | Hairspray, foundation, face powder  | 4**     | 4**                 | 4**      |
|                                   | Nail polish   | 9 + 4** | 4**                 | 4**      |
| SOLVENTS                          | Halos, often as a result of use of solvents   | 4***    | 4***                | 4***     |
|                                   | Solvent inks for print  | 4**     | 4**                 | 4**      |
| WAX                               | Candle wax, paraffin wax, plaster-based waxes (tailoring)   | 3       | 11                  | 11       |
| SILICONES<br>RESINS<br>&<br>GLUES | Silicone mastics, silicone-based products   | 6       | 6                   | 7        |
|                                   | Residues of acrylic adhesives or vegetable gum after the protective film has been removed               | 12      | 12                  | 12       |
|                                   | Two-component paints, glues and adhesives   | 4**     | 4**                 | 7        |
|                                   | Synthetic resins  | 4**     | 4**                 | 7        |
|                                   | Neoprene glue   | 9 + 4*  | 4*                  | 4*       |
| ORGANIC<br>FLUIDS                 | Body fluids and dirt hospital (cells, dermis, germs, bacteria, blood, urine)                            | 8       | 8                   | 8        |

## CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS - KEY

- USE A SOFT CLOTH OR PAPER TOWEL, EITHER DRY OR DAMPENED WITH WATER.
  - USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
  - INITIALLY USE A DRY SOFT CLOTH OR PAPER TOWEL. THEN USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
  - \* USE A DEDICATED SOLVENT\*, THEN USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
  - \*\* USE A DEDICATED SOLVENT\*\*, THEN USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
  - \*\*\* USE A DEDICATED SOLVENT\*\*\*, THEN USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
  - USE DETERGENTS CONTAINING ACETIC ACID OR CITRIC ACID AT UP TO 10% CONCENTRATION. RINSE WITH PLENTY OF WARM WATER. IF YOU USE DESCALING AGENTS FOR DOMESTIC USE, RINSE IMMEDIATELY.
  - IMMEDIATELY WIPE AWAY ANY RESIDUE WITH WATER OR SUITABLE SOLVENTS BEFORE THE STAIN SETS. CHECK THE PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS OR CONTACT THE MANUFACTURER FOR MORE DETAILS. FOR SILICONE, USE SUITABLE SOLVENTS.
  - AFTER IT HARDENS, TRY REMOVING IT RUBBING WITH DRY TOWELS AND, USING WOODEN OR SOFT PLASTIC (E.G. NYLON) SPATULAS TO SCRAPE IT OFF WITHOUT CAUSING ABRASIONS OR SCRATCHES.
  - AFTER USING WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN, WASH WITH DISINFECTANT DETERGENTS OR SIMPLY DISINFECTANTS THAT ARE ON THE MARKET OR PRESCRIBED BY HEALTH PRACTICES. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS. STEAM CAN ALSO BE USED FOR THIS TYPE OF DIRT.
  - IMMEDIATELY USE A DRY SOFT CLOTH OR PAPER TOWEL.
  - USE TRICHLOROETHYLENE OR NITRO SOLVENT, THEN USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
  - AFTER IT HARDENS, TRY REMOVING IT WITH DRY TOWELS AND WITH A PHYSICAL APPROACH, USING WOODEN OR SOFT PLASTIC (E.G. NYLON) SPATULAS TO SCRAPE IT OFF WITHOUT CAUSING ABRASIONS OR SCRATCHES. IN THE CASE OF WAX, PLACE A PAPER TOWEL OVER THE AFFECTED AREA, HEAT WITH AN IRON, THEN PEEL AWAY UNTIL COMPLETELY REMOVED.
  - USE ALCOHOL ON METAL SURFACES. FOR OTHER SURFACES, USE ACETONE OR, IF THE STAIN IS ESPECIALLY STUBBORN, COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS SPECIFICALLY USED FOR REMOVING GRAFFITI \*\*\*\*. THEN USE WARM WATER (UP TO 35-40°C) WITH SOAP OR A MILD HOUSEHOLD DETERGENT, LEAVING IT TO WORK UNTIL THE DIRT STARTS TO LOOSEN.
- \* GASOLINE, TURPENTINE, WHITE SPIRIT, TRICHLOROETHYLENE, PERCHLOROETHYLENE, TRICHLOROETHANE ESPECIALLY FOR NEOPRENE GLUES, ALCOHOL.  
 \*\* ACETONE OR NAIL POLISH REMOVER, GASOLINE, TURPENTINE, WHITE SPIRIT, TRICHLOROETHYLENE, PERCHLOROETHYLENE, TRICHLOROETHANE ESPECIALLY FOR NEOPRENE GLUES, ALCOHOL.  
 \*\*\* ALCOHOL.  
 \*\*\*\* THE OFFENDING ITEMS CAN BE EASILY REMOVED IF THEY ARE SOLUBLE IN WATER, OTHERWISE USE ORGANIC SOLVENT OR SPECIAL GRAFFITI CLEANER.

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