

## 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		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				N2		N3	
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)				N4			
8. Dark patches appearing after treatment with solvents (streaks)							
9. Water colours, Corrosives, Disperse, Dyes, Water-soluble adhesives, Dispersion media (PVC)		N5					
10. Varnishes containing solvents, dyes and adhesives (varnish residues, varnish sprays, colour sprays, marking ink)	L3	L2	N6	N7	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		