

# FORMICA® LAMINATE BY FORMICA GROUP



## AVOIDING LAMINATION DAMAGE TECHNICAL BRIEF



Typical damage that can occur to laminate when exposed to harsh chemicals.

- **AVOIDANCE OF ABRASIVE CLEANERS/MATERIALS**
- **RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR TREATING STAINS**
- **AVOIDANCE OF HARSH CHEMICAL CLEANERS**
- **AVOIDANCE OF HARSH CHEMICAL STAINS**

### AVOIDANCE OF HARSH CHEMICAL CLEANERS

If in doubt about the suitability of a particular cleaner, detergent, or other substance, consult with its manufacturer to make sure it is recommended for use on decorative laminate surfaces.

DO NOT use cleaners nor compounds containing strong acids or strong bases on laminate surfaces. These may mar, etch, corrode and/or permanently discolor or damage laminate surfaces.

#### EXAMPLES OF HARSH CLEANERS AND COMPOUNDS TO AVOID ARE:

- toilet bowl cleaners • cleaners containing sodium hypochlorite
- drain cleaners • coffee pot cleaners • tub and tile cleaners
- ceramic cook top cleaners • oven cleaners • chlorine bleach
- rust removers • lime/scale removers • metal cleaners

Never allow bottles, rags, etc., contaminated with these harsh chemical compounds to contact laminate services. Accidental spills or splatters from these compounds should be wiped off immediately, and the area rinsed thoroughly with water.

### AVOIDANCE OF HARSH CHEMICAL STAINING AGENTS

Many common staining agents have no effect on laminate. Stains from the following materials and liquids, however, are more stubborn or even permanent and may not disappear.

#### EXAMPLES OF THESE ARE:

- hair dyes and rinses
- laundry bluing
- pharmaceuticals (tannic acid, mercurochrome, silver nitrate, povidoneiodine, dermatological tar compounds and peroxide)

#### OTHER EXAMPLES OF STUBBORN OR PERMANENT STAINS ARE:

- wood stains • cash registered ink • indelible inks • newsprint
- marking pens • food pricing label ink

### AVOIDANCE OF ABRASIVE CLEANERS/MATERIALS

DO NOT use abrasive cleaners, powders, scouring pads, steel wool, sandpaper, etc. to clean laminate surfaces. These can damage the surface finish and make it susceptible to staining. Ceramic or other abrasive objects, due to their inherent hardness, can cause scratching and premature wearing of laminate surfaces. Use placemats, doilies, or trivets to protect horizontal surfaces from exposure.

### RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR TREATING STAINS

- Damage caused by abrasion or scratches is irreversible, but can sometimes be masked by applying lemon oil or self stripping waxes, such as Pledge® or Plexus™.
- Harsh chemicals can lighten the color of laminate permanently, but the damage can sometimes be masked by applying lemon oil or self stripping waxes, such as Pledge® or Plexus®.
- Harsh staining agents may be permanent, but the visual effect can usually be lessened by applying a mild household cleaner, or by using a small amount of baking soda and water and then wiping up. DO NOT scrub the area with baking soda as it is slightly abrasive.
- Paints, glues, and other adhesive materials can be removed with solvents like denatured alcohol, paint thinner, lacquer thinner, or acetone (fingernail polish remover). CAUTION: Some solvents are extremely flammable; follow all warnings on the solvent container.

Note: For additional information on the proper techniques for cleaning and maintaining laminate surfaces, consult Formica Corporation's brochure (Form 01-007A), titled "Caring for Formica® Brand Laminate and ColorCore® Brand Surfacing Material."

# FORMICA® LAMINATE BY FORMICA GROUP



## AVOIDING LAMINATION DAMAGE

### TECHNICAL BRIEF

#### LIMITED WARRANTY

Formica Corporation expressly warrants that, for a period of one (1) year from the date of first sale, these products will be reasonably free of defects in materials and workmanship, and that when properly handled and fabricated, will conform, within accepted tolerance, to applicable manufacturing specifications. Colors subject to dye lot variations. This limited warranty only applies to Formica® Brand Laminate which is stored, handled, fabricated and installed in the manner recommended by Formica Corporation. Due to the variety of uses and applications to which Formica® Brand Laminate may be put, FORMICA CORPORATION CAN MAKE NO WARRANTY THAT THIS PRODUCT IS SUITABLE FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND CAN MAKE NO OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, OTHER THAN THOSE SET FORTH ABOVE.

#### DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES

THE WARRANTIES SET FORTH HEREIN OR IN FORMICA CORPORATION'S WARRANTY DOCUMENTS WITH RESPECT TO A PRODUCT ARE THE ONLY WARRANTIES MADE BY FORMICA CORPORATION IN CONNECTION WITH THESE PRODUCTS, AND ARE EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. PRODUCTS SOLD BY FORMICA CORPORATION ARE SOLD ONLY TO THE SPECIFICATIONS SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH BY FORMICA CORPORATION IN WRITING. FORMICA CORPORATION'S SOLE OBLIGATION FOR A REMEDY TO BUYER SHALL BE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF NON-CONFORMING PRODUCTS, OR AT THE OPTION OF FORMICA CORPORATION, RETURN OF THE PRODUCT AND REFUND OF THE PURCHASE PRICE. BUYER ASSUMES ALL RISK WHATSOEVER AS TO THE RESULT OF THE USE OF THE PRODUCTS PURCHASED, WHETHER USED SINGLY OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES.

#### LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

No claim by buyer of any kind, including claims for indemnification, whether as to quality or amount of products delivered or for non-delivery of products, shall be greater in amount than the purchase price of the products in respect of which damages are claimed. IN NO EVENT SHALL FORMICA CORPORATION BE LIABLE TO BUYER FOR ANY SPECIAL, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, RELIANCE, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OR COVER, OR LOSS OF PROFIT, REVENUE OR USE, IN CONNECTION WITH, ARISING OUT OF, OR AS A RESULT OF, THE SALE, DELIVERY, SERVICING, USE OR LOSS OF USE OF THE PRODUCTS SOLD HEREUNDER, OR FOR ANY LIABILITY OF BUYER TO ANY THIRD PARTY WITH RESPECT THERETO. BUYER SHALL INSPECT FOR NONCONFORMITY PROMPTLY UPON RECEIPT. Failure by buyer to give Formica Corporation written notice of claim within 30 days from date of delivery or, in the case of non-delivery from the date fixed for delivery, shall constitute a waiver by buyer of all claims in respect of such products.

This limited warranty gives purchaser of Formica® Brand Laminate specific legal rights. Other rights may be available and vary from state to state.

Any information or suggestion concerning application, specifications or compliances with codes and standards is provided solely for your convenient reference and without any representation as to accuracy or suitability. Formica Corporation disclaims any legal responsibility. The user must verify and test the suitability of any information or products for their own particular purpose of specific application.

#### MANUFACTURER

Formica® Brand Laminate sheets are manufactured by Formica Corporation.

#### TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical assistance may be obtained through your local Formica® Brand Products Distributor or from Formica Corporation trained representatives in sales offices throughout the country. To assist these representatives, Formica Corporation maintains a sales and technical services staff in Cincinnati, Ohio. For technical assistance, contact your distributor or sales representative; write the company directly at Formica Corporation Technical Services Department, 10155 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH, 45241; call (513) 786-3578 or 1-800-FORMICA™; or fax (513) 786-3195. In Canada, call 1-800-363-1405. In Mexico, call (525) 530-3135.

Formica is a sublicensed trademark to Formica Corporation. Formica and the Formica Anvil logo are registered trademarks of The Diller Corporation. 1-800-FORMICA is a trademark of The Diller Corporation. The products and manufacturing processes of Formica Corporation are protected under U.S. and foreign patents.

All ® brands are registered trademarks of the respective owners. All ™ brands are trademarks of the respective owners.

For warranty information, please visit [www.formica.com](http://www.formica.com) or call 1-800-FORMICA™.

©2019 Formica Corporation  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45241