

## Routine Maintenance

One of the best ways to keep your laminate looking good is to properly maintain it to reduce buildup on the surface.

For routine maintenance wipe the surface with a damp cloth.

## Scratches

Use an oak, walnut, or mahogany putty stick to fill in scratches in woodgrain laminate tops.-Putty sticks can be purchased at paint supply and hardware stores.

## Stains

Food dyes, marking pens, and ink newsprint may cause permanent stains.

To prevent staining, remove ink as soon as possible.

To remove stains, wipe surface with a damp cloth and use a mild liquid detergent or soap. Rinse with warm clean water. Use a clean, cotton cloth to dry thoroughly.

For more difficult stains, use a soft bristle brush with detergent or soap to remove stains.

If the stain is not removed, create a paste with baking soda and water. Apply the paste, without scrubbing, and wipe the paste off with a damp cotton cloth. Rinse with warm water. Dry completely. Scrubbing the paste may cause damage to the laminate surface.

If needed, use a hard-surface, all purpose cleaner such as Formula 409®, Fantastik®, or Mr. Clean®. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for general purpose cleaning.

## Do Not...

Do not use chemical products that contain acid, sodium hydroxide, lye, or alkali. Examples of these products are rust removers, chlorine bleach, muriatic acid, metal cleaners, paint thinners, and naphtha.

Do not place rags with these chemicals on the laminate surface as they may cause damage to the surface. Wipe a chemical spill immediately and clean off with water and a rag.

Do not use steel wool or abrasive pads on the surface. Do not scrub with or store them on the surface as the rust may cause stains.

Do not place extremely hot items directly onto the surface. Extreme heat can cause the surface to crack.

Do not cut on the surface with a knife or hammer or pound as this can result in scratches and leave marks and dents.

## Sustainable Cleaning Solutions

A variety of companies and groups assert that their cleaning products are better for humans and the environment than others. Steelcase has not evaluated all of these claims, but believes that Green Seal ([www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org)) is one good source for identifying sustainable cleaning solutions. Green Seal is an independent nonprofit organization with experience in certifying products and services that are suitable. When searching the site, use GS-37 as the lifecycle-based sustainability standard.