

Cleaning Recommendations



TUFFAK cleaning instructions

Periodic cleaning of TUFFAK is recommended to prolong the service life of your material. To minimize the risk of damage, use only compatible household cleaners and correct cleaning procedures as outlined below.

TUFFAK GP polycarbonate mars easily with wiping action. TUFFAK 15, TUFFAK AR, and Hygard laminate sheets are hard coated, abrasion and mar resistant polycarbonate products that offer a high degree of surface hardness and abrasion resistance. These products provide superior protection against unintentional chemical attack. However, the use of abrasive, gritty cleaners or hard cleaning implements (e.g., hard brushes, scrapers, squeegees) should be avoided to eliminate the possibility of scratching the coating.

Compatible cleaners

The following cleaning agents are compatible with TUFFAK polycarbonate sheet products when used according to the manufacturer's recommendations:

- » Top Job
- » Joy®
- » Palmolive Liquid®
- » Windex® Ammonia free

Top Job and Joy are registered trademarks of Proctor & Gamble, Palmolive is a registered trademark of Colgate Palmolive, Windex is a registered trademark of Drackett Products.

General cleaning instructions:

- » Thoroughly pre-rinse with warm water to loosen and wash away surface residue, grit and grime.
- » Using a soft microfiber cloth or moist non-abrasive sponge, gently wash with a mild diluted soap or detergent.
- » Rinse thoroughly with lukewarm, clean water. To prevent water spots, thoroughly dry the glazing with a dry soft cloth.

Removing heavy oils and tars:

- » Thoroughly pre-rinse with warm water to loosen and wash away surface residue, grit and grime.
- » With a 50/50 isopropyl alcohol-water mixture, gently rub the area with a soft non-abrasive cloth.
- » Immediately rinse thoroughly with lukewarm clean water. To prevent water spots, thoroughly dry the glazing with a dry soft cloth.

Removing graffiti, paint, marker, inks and glazing compounds:

- » Thoroughly pre-rinse with warm water to loosen and wash away surface residue, grit and grime.
- » Using Naphtha VM&P grade, Isopropyl Alcohol or Butyl Cellosolve™, gently rub the area with a soft, non-abrasive cloth. Do not apply solvent cleaners under direct sunlight or during high temperatures.
- » Immediately rinse thoroughly with lukewarm clean water. To prevent water spots, thoroughly dry the glazing with a dry soft cloth.

Removing adhesive-backed labels:

- » Isopropyl Alcohol, Naphtha VM&P grade or Kerosene will help lift stickers and adhesives.
- » Immediately rinse thoroughly with lukewarm clean water. To prevent water spots, thoroughly dry the glazing with a dry soft cloth.

Important reminders

- » Do not clean TUFFAK with any cleaners other than those on the approved, compatible list included in this guide, or those tested and found compatible.
- » Do not use abrasive cleaners.
- » Do not use high alkaline cleaners (high pH or ammoniated).
- » Do not leave cleaners sitting on TUFFAK for periods of time; rinse off immediately.
- » Do not apply cleaners under direct sunlight or at elevated temperatures.
- » Do not use scrapers, squeegees, razors or other sharp instruments as they may permanently scratch TUFFAK.
- » Do not dry rub or dry clean TUFFAK, as sand and dust particles clinging to the exterior of the glazing may scratch its surface. An Anti-Static Canned-Air Ionizer can reduce electrostatic charge buildup on TUFFAK, and aids in reducing dirt and dust buildup that can hinder cleaning.

Contact the Plaskolite Technical Service Group at 800.628.5084 with any questions.

TECH TIP:

The edges of coated polycarbonate sheet are not protected with an abrasion and chemical resistant hard coating. Do not allow cleaning solutions and solvents to pool along the edges for any length of time. Always rinse edges thoroughly with generous amounts of lukewarm clean water.

Removing scratches

Deep scratches and gouges made by sharp objects such as keys, screwdrivers, and knives cannot be repaired. Fine scratches may be reduced in severity or cosmetically hidden by using a buffing compound such as NOVUS® 2 Plastic Fine Scratch Remover, followed by a cleaning and polishing agent like NOVUS® 1. However, for abrasion resistant coated products, buffing the surface is not recommended. Buffing these scratched sites worsen the condition and further damage the coating. Once the coating is removed, it cannot be repaired and buffing may optically distort the window.

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