

## TAKING CARE OF YOUR FURNITURE

A piece of furniture is an investment you should be able to enjoy decade after decade. That's why it makes good sense to spend a little time maintaining and looking after it.

Here are some tips on how to care for your furniture. That way, you can be sure it will stay looking fresh and acquire an attractive patina over the years.

## Veneered & solid wood – lacquered finish

**Regular care**: Wipe with a damp cloth and a little mild detergent if required. Then wipe dry with a dry cloth. Do not use cleaners with abrasive properties.

**IMPORTANT!** Hot objects that come into contact with a lacquered surface, or liquids that are not wiped up immediately, can cause discoloration. A lacquered surface is easily damaged by sharp objects that can cause scratches or gashes.

## Veneered & solid wood - oiled finish

**Regular care**: Wipe with a damp cloth. Then wipe dry. Do not use thinner or strong detergent on oiled surfaces.

Veneered surfaces with an oiled finish are particularly sensitive to liquids. The fibers in the wood lift on contact with water, causing the surface to feel rough.

**IMPORTANT!** Hot objects that come into contact with a lacquered surface, or liquids that are not wiped up immediately, can cause discoloration. An oiled surface is easily damaged by sharp objects that can cause scratches or gashes.

**Occasional care**: If the wood feels dry or a mark appears, apply linseed oil and sand with fine sandpaper (no. 240) in the direction of the grain. Wipe away any excess oil and polish dry with a lint-free cotton cloth. Then allow the furniture to dry for at least 1–2 days. For best results oil 1–2 months after purchasing and at least once a year thereafter.

**IMPORTANT!** Cloths soaked in linseed oil become so hot as they dry out that they pose a very real risk of spontaneous combustion. Allow them to dry totally flat in a "safe" place, or better still, burn them. Once the oil has dried there is no longer any risk of spontaneous combustion.

## Laminated finish

**Regular care**: Wipe with a damp cloth and a mild detergent. Then dry with a dry cloth. Do not use cleaners with abrasive properties, steel wool, scouring powder, abrasive cloths or similar products as they can leave shiny marks on surfaces.

**Occasional care**: For stains such as wine, pollen, grease, oil etc. use acetone, white spirit or gasoline. Always rinse with plenty of water with mild detergent. Finally wipe dry with a dry cloth. Clean heavily soiled textured surfaces with a soft brush.

**IMPORTANT!** Laminated surfaces are easily damaged by sharp objects that can cause scratches or gashes.

More information at formica.com



### **HI-MACS®**

If you have searched long and hard for a superior quality, durable and tough material, we would like to congratulate you on choosing HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> Natural Acrylic Stone<sup>™</sup>. The material is hard-wearing, extremely repellent to stains and is therefore very easy to look after. We would like to provide you with a few simple tips and hints on caring for your product so that you can enjoy its exceptional quality for many years to come.

## General day-to-day stains

HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> is a completely homogenous material. As it does not have any pores, you can simply and easily clean it with a damp cloth or sponge and a mild detergent.

You can also use a domestic scouring agent on all matt finishes. It is also useful to wipe your surface occasionally with a scouring agent or wet sponge to retain the even finish of your product.

## **Tougher stains**

Tougher stains, caused by food colouring, tea or fruit juice can easily be removed using a bleaching agent (do not leave in contact with the work surface for more than five minutes). Clean the surface with a domestic all-purpose cleaner and rinse with clean water. You can also use a scouring agent on matt finishes. Nail varnish can easily be removed with nail varnish remover (acetone-free) or a scouring agent.

## Acidic cleaning agents

A number of cleaning agents contain acids, such as methyl chloride or acetone. Avoid using these on a HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> surface. Should one of these products accidentally come into contact with the material, as a precautionary measure, rinse the surface with soapy water to prevent any discolouring taking place.

### Hot objects

Hot saucepans or pots straight out of the oven or from the hob should not be laid directly on the HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> surface. Place a mat or board underneath to prevent any damage to your product. If you pour boiling liquids into HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> sinks or basins, you should also pour in cold water at the same time

### **Burn marks**

Small burn marks or marks caused by nicotine can simply be removed using a scouring agent or an abrasive sponge. Should this give the high-gloss finish a matt appearance, rubbing the surface with a scouring pad will quickly return it to its high-gloss state.



## Sharp objects

HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> copes effortlessly with the wear and tear of everyday life, however pointed or sharpedged objects can leave cuts or scratches on the HI-MACS<sup>®</sup> surface. You can repair smaller cuts and scratches without too much trouble but we recommend the services of a professional for especially deep cuts.

Cleaning process Stain	Water	Universal cleaning agent	Abrasive cleaning agent	Scouring pad
Water based marker pen (black), Cooling oil, Coffee, Tea, Milk, Juice, Lotion, Ketchup	x			
Curry, Oil-based marker pen (black), Colored pen (red), 10% lodine tincture	x	х	х	
Magarine, Lipstick, Coloring	х	х		
Cigarette burns	Х	Х	Х	Х

# Desktop

**Regular cleaning:** Wipe clean with a damp cloth and a neutral cleaner. As a regular cleaner you can also use with a blend of water and natural soap or waxes (e.g. Forbo Monel in the ratio of 0.5cl to 10 liters of water)

**Periodic Maintenance:** In order to maintain the surface of Furniture Linoleum a blend of water and natural soap or waxes (e.g. Forbo Monel in the ratio of 0.5cl. to 10 liters of water) should be periodically. If the surface has been neglected or worn hard, a dilution of water and natural soap or waxes (Monel at a ratio of 1;10) to water can be used to upgrade the Furniture Linoleum.

**Stain removal:** To prevent stubborn stains always use coasters under the flower pots, vases, cups, glasses etc.

It is important to remove spots, stains and spillages as quickly as possible to prevent them from penetrating into the material. The surface can be cleaned with a neutral detergent and water. If the above treatment does not help, try soaking the surface in water with a pH-neutral Universal Cleaner (e.g. Forbo Cleaner diluted 5% to water) for a few minutes. Scrub the surface gently with a white pad or similar. Finish by wiping off the dirty with a cloth. To upgrade the surface after a thorough cleaning see under "Periodic Maintenance" above.

Some pigmented stains may be removed or made less visible by using turpentine or similar oil based solvent. Do not use alkaline or alcohol based cleaning products since it will damage the surface.

## Other tips

For flower pots, plates, coffee cups etc. use undercoats since spill can occur. Remove all stains as quickly as possible and wipe the surface dry after cleaning.



## Slate

**Regular care**: Wipe with soapy water using a lint-free cloth. Occasional care: Use shale oil (available from specialist home decorating stores) – rub in and polish dry to produce a shiny surface.

**IMPORTANT!** Do NOT use strong detergent.

## Leather

**Regular care**: Vacuum your furniture or wipe with a soft cloth.

**Occasional care**: For marks that are water soluble, dab the affected area lightly with a natural sponge or cotton wool ball. Use clean water and non-perfumed soap. Do not rub.

Several times a year and each time after washing in this way, it is advisable to treat the leather with a nourishing, enriching moisturizing cream. Your furniture retailer will be happy to advise you on this.

**IMPORTANT!** Never place leather furniture in direct sunlight and avoid putting it near to a source of heat. Never use chemical stain removers.

### Glass

Wipe with a damp cloth and little mild detergent.

## Concrete

When necessary, wipe with a damp cloth. Then wipe dry with a cloth. Do not use thinner, strong cleaners or abrasives.

### Felt

Use vacuum cleaning to remove dust and likewise. Wipe with a damp cloth, that doesn't leave own fibers, with manual dish washing detergent or pH-neutral detergent and water. Wipe the surface dry after cleaning.

### **Bulletin Board**

When necessary, clean the surface with a pH-neutral detergent or a soap solution. Wipe the surface dry after cleaning.

### Whiteboard

Reasons why the written can't be removed can be one of the following:

• The tip of the stylus is dirty or fat.

- Other pens than whiteboard pens have been used.
- The eraser is dirty or fat.
- Soap or other soap solution has been used when cleaning.

• The written text is dehydrated with your hand. (A human hand leaves fat that lays like a film on the board, pencils and eraser).

### Actions

• Thoroughly clean the whiteboard with detergents intended for whiteboards, wipe with warm water and allow the board to dry.

• Wait approximately 15 minutes so that the board is absolutely dry before use. Little moisture may cause the whiteboard to function worse than before cleaning.

• Replace pens and eraser with new ones.



## Tips

- Never use detergents or other cleaning solutions not intended for whiteboards!
- When writing, wait about 20 seconds before blurring so the ink may dry on the board.

## GENERALLY

Always follow the instructions of the respective chemical manufacturers regarding dosage etc. Karl Andersson & Söner disclaims liability for damage due to improper handling or use of chemical products beyond our control.