



Care and Maintenance Details

Dear valued client,

Thank you for choosing Alpha Panelli to manufacture and install your new cabinets. We take great pride in our workmanship and hope that your new cabinets will bring you many years of happiness. The following Care and Maintenance details should cover most common on-going care details. If you require further information or any more details not covered in this document, please do not hesitate to contact us.

CARE FOR YOUR CABINETS

We suggest you observe the following care processes & hints (as applicable) to keep your new cabinets looking bright and as new for many years to come.

DOORS & PANELS LAMINATE

LAMINATE is a hardwearing material, but like all materials it can be damaged if used without the proper care and maintenance. The following information should help you to maintain the surface of laminate with the minimum of time and effort.

CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

A wipe over with a clean soft damp cloth should be sufficient to keep all laminate surfaces clean. Soiled or light stains are removed with warm soapy water or with a common detergent, such as Mr. Muscle, Dissol, Nifty Solvent or bathroom cleaner, Flash Liquid, Bathroom Plus or Extra Strength Windex, containing no abrasive or no strongly acidic or alkaline ingredients. It may be necessary to use a brush similar to a tooth or nail brush as well, where the surface is of a textured or embossed finish. Wax or other polishes are unnecessary and should not be used on decorative laminates. If acrylic materials are used, avoid cleaning for 5 days after removal of the plastic protective film to allow the time for air curing.

WARNING: WHEN CLEANING, BE CAREFUL NOT TO RUB EXCESSIVELY. THIS MAY CAUSE A SHINE ON THE AREA.

THERMO-FORMED DOORS

Vinyl wrap or thermo formed doors are a coated door that undergoes a heat vacuum process to wrap an MDF door substrate. They are low maintenance and can be easily cleaned using warm soapy water and a soft cloth or sponge (a toothbrush may be useful for hard to reach areas). Towel dry afterwards. Stubborn stains and marks (such as ball point ink) should be removed immediately by gently wiping the surface with mentholated spirits. **DO NOT** use abrasives, solvent based or cream cleansers. **DO NOT** allow hot objects to come into contact with the surface finishes.



Excessive heat, hot gases, steam and fumes produced by cooking appliances such as wall ovens, hotplates and dishwashers, can lead to damage to your thermo-formed doors and panels, such as de-lamination and discoloration. To avoid such occurrences, the following precautions should be taken:

- Regularly check the condition and functions of the door seals around wall ovens and dishwashers so as to avoid leakage.
- Never allow heat, hot gases and fumes produced by wall ovens to come in to contact with cupboard doors and panels surrounding wall oven or appliances. It is recommended that (if possible) the wall oven be installed with a rear ducted exhaust. In the case of front panel exhaust, a heat deflector shield will need to be used.
- Always operate the Rangehood exhaust when using your bench top hot plates.

HIGH TEMPERATURES AND COOKING FUMES WILL CAUSE DAMAGE TO SURROUNDING CUPBOARD DOORS AND PANELS UNLESS AN EFFICIENT EXHAUST IS USED.

PIGMENTED DOORS (Two Pack Paint)

Two Pack finishes offer superior features such as:

- Hard wearing
- Longer lifespan
- Seamless edges

To care for your two pack doors, please clean up any spillages immediately. DO NOT use abrasives, solvent-based or cream cleanser to clean your painted doors, these can have an adverse affect on the paint and cause bubbling or cracking. It's recommended to only use warm soapy water and a soft cloth. Paint thinners can be used with extreme caution, but is not recommended. Painted doors can be damaged by mechanical damage. Avoid contact with sharp and or hard objects, like cutlery, pots, pans and utensils.

SOLID TIMBER DOOR OR PANELS

Don't be alarmed if your timber doors move. Timber is a natural product that will absorb moisture and expand or contract. Excessive heat may cause shrinkage. The moisture content in your doors will, with time, vary in response to changes in the relative humidity of the air surrounding it.

To help avoid this utilize your rangehood whilst cooking and open your doors and windows if you have evaporative air conditioning. UV rays in sunlight can discolour timber doors. Red toned timber will turn more brown, whilst light timbers will gain a honey colour. There is no remedy for this occurring. If you notice shrinkage, (which is a natural occurrence), within the centre panels, we suggest you purchase a bottle of Marveer, O'Cedar Oil, or Goddards Cabinet Makers Polish (all available from your local supermarket or hardware store). Apply these polishes to the exposed



timber area with a clean white rag. This will enhance and protect the timber surface. To ensure that your surface finish remains in perfect condition the above polishes should be applied at three monthly intervals for the life of the product. Particular attention should be directed to the end grain areas of your doors or bench tops (as applicable).

CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

The use of furniture polishes (in particular, ones which contain silicon) and waxes are not recommended for use on the timber surfaces. Wipe with a warm damp cloth followed by a soft, dry cloth whenever spills occur. Clean cooking grease off after cooking. Ensure handle area is wiped clean regularly. Dust should be wiped from the surface with a clean, soft cloth in the direction of the grain as the fine dust particles can act as an abrasive. Spilling of some materials as mentioned in “Staining” can affect the lacquer surfaces so the procedure of wiping spills as soon as they occur will help avoid damage to the timber surfaces.

LAMINATE BENCH TOPS

Laminate Bench tops are produced by a variety of manufactures, care and maintenance for all laminate bench tops is similar.

GENERAL CARE

- Avoid scourers and abrasives as they will damage the surface.
- Don't place hot appliances or objects from oven or cooker onto a laminate surface.
- Don't cut on the laminate surface.
- Keep waxes and polishes well away as they dull the natural shine.
- Do not use strong acidic, alkaline or bleach for normal cleaning as these might etch the surface.

STREAKS

Streaky marks sometimes show on dark colours after cleaning. An all-purpose cleaner such as Windex spray cleaner or Ajax Spray n Wipe usually removes these.

GREASE

Using a mild dishwashing detergent in water will remove greasy marks. Dab, wait and wipe away. Finish with an all-purpose cleaner such as Windex spray cleaner or Ajax Spray n Wipe.

SPILLS

Laminate surfaces resist staining from most household chemicals. With some accidental spills however, prompt action is essential. Wipe off beetroot, grape and berry juices, first aid preparations,



concentrated bleach, oven cleaners, dishwasher detergents, artificial dyes, hair colouring and solvent based pen ink immediately. Specialty glues such as Super Glue must also be removed straight away with acetone (nail polish remover).

STAINS

If the stain won't budge with Extra Strength Windex, try methylated spirits or dab the stain with a diluted bleach mixture (1 part bleach to 8 parts water); leave for 3 minutes then wash off with water and dry. Finish off with Extra Strength Windex. Only as a last resort if a stain persists try 2 or 3 rubs with a crème cleanser or white toothpaste, wash and dry. Please note that bleach or these abrasive cleaners may irreversibly damage the laminate surface.

SCRATCHES

Laminate surfaces will withstand normal wear and tear, but can be damaged by scratching or cutting with utensils, knives and unglazed pottery. Darker colours will show scratches more readily than lighter colours. In general, dark colours and high gloss surfaces require more care and maintenance than lighter colours or lower gloss colours. To minimise scratching, always place and lift objects from the surface – never drag or slide them across the surface.

SPECIFIC CARE

(This applies to Squareform Benchtops, Fire Retardant Laminates, Chemical Resistant Laminates, Aquapanel Wet Area Paneling, Vizage Wall Lining, Fusion Laminates and Compact Laminate)

A damp cloth will remove spills and greasy spots. Rub with a clean dry cloth to bring back brightness. Occasionally clean with mild dishwashing detergent. To remove heavy build-up of dirt use cleaners such as Mr. Muscle, Windex or Ajax Spray n Wipe spray cleaners.

DIAMOND GLOSS LAMINATES

Wipe off spills or marks promptly with gentle rubbing using a soft cloth and mild dishwashing detergent. Dry with a soft, dry cloth. For more persistent marks, use a glass window cleaner. Never use abrasive cleaners – even those in liquid form – as they will mark the high gloss surface.

METALLIC LAMINATES

Wipe off spills or marks promptly with a soft cloth and mild dishwashing detergent. Dry with a soft, dry cloth. For more persistent marks, use a glass window cleaner. Never use abrasive cleaners – even those in liquid form – as they will mark the surface. Also never use solvents on metallic laminates or acids or alkalis.

STAINLESS STEEL LAMINATES

Wipe off spills or marks promptly with a soft cloth and mild dishwashing detergent. Dry with a soft, dry cloth. For more persistent marks, use a glass window cleaner or methylated spirits. Never use



abrasive cleaners – even those in liquid form – as they will mark the surface. Specialty stainless steel cleaner can also be used if necessary.

Alpha Panelli will ensure the proper height of cabinets is set during the installation of your cabinets. However, we can organise for one of our qualified tradesman to make any additional height adjustments for you, if necessary. This service would be charged separately.

PLEASE READ ABOVE PRIOR TO USING YOUR NEW CABINETS. FAILURE TO COMPLY MAY VOID YOUR WARRANTY.