

Symbio® Movable Walls | Product Care & Maintenance Guide

We hope you enjoy your Symbio™ Movable Walls. With regular care and maintenance you will enjoy continuous performance and satisfaction.

To maintain the quality finish of your partitions, follow the cleaning procedures outlined below.

Inspect product periodically for dents, scratches, stains, and other damage to ensure that minor repairs are made on a regular basis. Directions for minor finish repairs are included in this guide.

In general, we recommend the use of cleaning agents that are water based and biodegradable.

If you have additional questions about care and maintenance, please call us.

The instructions that follow for the care and maintenance of Environamics Movable Wall products are provided to you as a service. No warranty is implied since results may vary.

Wood Veneer Finishes

Interior wood finishes suffer less from the elements, but still weather from the drying effects of exposure to sunlight and interior climate control. Regular dusting and cleaning will keep wood surfaces looking good and help maintain the surface by removing any substances that can stain the wood finish. Wipe down wood surfaces regularly to remove dust and dirt, using a damp cloth and rubbing in the direction of the wood grain. Periodically, clean the surface of wood doors or panel inserts, using a non-abrasive commercial cleaner designed for cleaning wood door or paneling surfaces, that does not leave a film residue that would build up or affect the surface gloss of the wood finish.

High Pressure Laminate

Products with high-pressure laminate finish may include doors and framed panel inserts.

For normal cleaning, wash high-pressure laminate with a soft cloth and a solution of mild detergent and warm water. Rinse thoroughly and dry with a soft cloth.

For minor repair of burns or other stubborn marks, apply a non-abrasive liquid kitchen cleanser with a soft cloth soaked in warm water. Rub in the direction of the grain; use caution to avoid damaging the surface texture or gloss. If no grain direction is visible, rub with a light, circular motion.

Do not use powdered abrasives or other harsh cleansers like bleach, hydrogen peroxide, nitric or hydrochloric acids, or lye; they may deface the surface and change the finish color.

Textiles – Fabric & Vinyl

Movable Wall Panels with Fabric Finish

For normal cleaning, vacuum panel cloth as needed using upholstery attachment and low suction.

Do not brush panel cloth or use a vacuum attachment with a rotary brush. Brushing may permanently damage the nap or change the character of the fabric.

Do not apply water or any liquid solution to panel cloth. Wetting the fabric with any liquid solution may result in permanent damage.

Movable Wall Panels with Vinyl Finish

As with any quality product, proper care and maintenance will extend the useful life of your vinyl wallcovering and help maintain its original beauty and finish.

The following general cleaning instructions will serve as a guide to normal cleaning maintenance, while the special conditions section will serve as a guide to specific cleaning problems.

Stains should be removed as quickly as possible to eliminate any possible reaction between the staining agent and the wallcovering. Time is especially important for removing materials containing colors or solvents, such as ballpoint ink, lipstick, oil, shampoo tints and some foodstuffs. If soilants remain on the wallcovering too long, permanent discoloration may develop.

Vinyl wall coverings should not be sprayed with wax or other protective coating. Such application would only tend to discolor the material, and in any case, would offer little protection.

Normal Cleaning of Vinyl Finish

Ordinary dirt and smudges can be rubbed with a mild soap, warm water, and, if necessary, a hard bristle brush to remove dirt from the crevices of deeply textured patterns. Clean from bottom of wall upward. Rinse thoroughly with clean water from the top down using a sponge. Deeply embossed wall coverings need extra attention in case suds or loosened dirt lodge in depressed surfaces. Dry wallcovering with a soft, lint-free cloth or towel. For more difficult stains that are only surface deep, the use of a stronger detergent is recommended; however, the manufacturer's instructions should be followed carefully.

Not recommended for cleaning are; steel wool or powdered abrasive cleaners because they mar the surface leaving an unsightly appearance. DO NOT use active solvent-type cleaning preparations, such as nail polish remover or tar and bug removers, etc., because they will remove print and/or finish from the wallcovering.

Special Cleaning of Vinyl Finish

Lacquer, Shellac -- Remove IMMEDIATELY with dry cloth, taking care not to spread stain. Clean quickly with rubbing alcohol or perchlorethylene (Technical Grade). Rinse with clear water.

Ballpoint Ink -- Remove IMMEDIATELY using a cloth dampened in rubbing alcohol.

Tar or Asphalt -- Remove IMMEDIATELY using a cloth dampened with kerosene or cleaning naphtha. Rub gently from outside edge of stain to center to prevent stain from spreading. Rinse with clear water.

Paint or Enamel -- Remove IMMEDIATELY with sponge or cloth dampened with turpentine, kerosene, cleaning naphtha, or water as directed by paint can label. Wash with mild soap and water. Rinse with clear water.

Chewing Gum or Grease -- Scrape off as much as possible and go over lightly with cleaning naphtha to remove remainder. (Chewing gum will come off more easily if rubbed with an ice cube.) No time should be lost in removing shoe polish because it contains dye which can cause permanent staining. Rinse with clear water.

Feces, Blood or Urine -- Remove quickly using strong soap solution.

Pencil, Crayon -- Scrape off excess crayon and erase pencil marks. Clean remaining stains with rubbing alcohol.

NOTE: When using rubbing alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, turpentine, household bleach, or kerosene, first test the solution on some inconspicuous portion of the vinyl to be sure that there will not be any adverse effect on print color or gloss.

NEVER MIX CLEANING AGENTS TOGETHER -- VIOLENT REACTIONS MAY OCCUR

Where stains are a constant threat, it would be worth the extra cost to specify a vinyl wallcovering with Prefixx™ top finish. In any case, a good preventative maintenance program will prolong the life and beauty of all vinyl wall coverings.

Patching and Repairing Vinyl Wallcovering

Removal of a small section (Inlay Method): Cut around damaged section of vinyl wallcovering and remove it. A larger patch is then cut from the new material and pasted over the cut-out area so that the pattern matches. The overlap is cut with a new single-edge razor blade through to the wall. The excess material is then removed and the edges of the patch adhered and pressed in place. Care should be taken not to score the base wall surface too deeply when applied to the panel face material.

Tiles

For normal cleaning, vacuum panel cloth as needed using an upholstery attachment and low suction. If further cleaning is required, dry clean or spot clean fabric with a solvent cleaner. Flame-retardant finishes can withstand up to three solvent dry cleanings and still pass the flame test.

Do not brush fabric or panel cloth or use a vacuum attachment with a rotary brush. Brushing may permanently damage the nap or change the character of the fabric.

Clear Glass

For normal cleaning, use products specifically formulated for glass. To clean clear glass, wet the surface with clean water and a soap solution to loosen dirt and debris. Use a mild, non-abrasive commercial window cleaning solution along with a sponge or soft cloth. Use a squeegee to remove all of the cleaning solution. Dry all cleaning solution from window gaskets, sealants and frames. Make sure not to trap abrasive particles between the cleaning materials and the glass surface.

Glass with Film

Window films may be washed with common washing solutions, including ammonia-based cleaners, thirty (30) days after installation. Abrasive type cleaning agents and brushes, which would scratch the film, must not be used. These films may also be cleaned with a mild dishwashing soap such as Ivory Liquid® and a synthetic sponge, squeegee or soft cloth. Use care not to damage or lift the edges of the film. Do not use a pressure washer, which can force water under the film and cause it to come loose.

Metal

Powder-Coated Aluminum

For normal cleaning, wash painted metal surfaces with a soft cloth soaked in mild detergent and warm water; rinse thoroughly with clean water, and dry. Do not use excessive scrubbing or brushing as that may adversely affect the finish.

Remove scuff marks from low-gloss coatings with pre-softened paste wax, following the manufacturer's instructions.

For assistance in determining the appropriate color and gloss for touch-up paint, contact Environamics.

Anodized Aluminum

For normal cleaning, wash anodized metal surfaces with a soft cloth or sponge soaked in mild detergent and warm water; rinse thoroughly with clean water, and dry. For more stubborn soil, a soft brush or palm-sized nylon cleaning pad may be used, rubbing in the direction of the grain.

Door Hardware

Locksets and Passage Sets

Regularly remove finger prints and dirt from door hardware using a clean, soft, damp cloth. Surfaces should be dried.

Do not use household cleaners, window cleaning solutions, abrasive cleansers, bleaches, solvents, polishes or other chemical compounds to clean door hardware unless specifically recommended by the hardware's manufacturer. These products may remove protective coatings or scratch and remove finishes. During cleaning, care should be taken to prevent cleaning solution from entering the cylinder keyway.

The following are the recommended methods for cleaning popular finishes:

- Satin stainless steel: Use a non-chlorinated kitchen or stainless steel cleaner and a soft cloth. Any cleaner safe for glass is usually safe for stainless steel. Light surface rust can readily be removed by rubbing the surface with a brass silver or chrome cleaner. Irreversible pitting will develop under rust that remains on stainless for any period of time. Never clean with mineral acids or bleaches. For added protection apply a coat of good car wax.
- Polished stainless steel: Same as above.
- Lacquered brass and bronze: Use a soft cloth and mild soap and water. Never use brass polish or abrasive cleaners unless you are totally refinishing the product.
- Un-lacquered brass and bronze: Use a soft cloth and a copper or brass cleaning product (such as Flitz).
- Oil rubbed bronze: Use a soft cloth and 3 in 1 oil, lemon oil, or similar light oil product. Very lightly coat the surface with oil and gently rub the surface to re-blend the finish. Do not rub too hard or you will remove the oxide coating that gives this finish its antique brown finish. It is normal for the oxide to wear off in areas of products that normally are routinely touched such as door pull grip areas.
- Chrome: Use a soft cloth such as cheesecloth and mild soap and water. Dry the component with a soft cloth to remove any soap residue.
- Aluminum and brass-look aluminum: Use a soft cloth such as cheesecloth and mild soap and water. Dry the component with a soft cloth to remove any soap residue.

Locking Cylinders

If the locking cylinder is rough or dragging, lubricate with powdered or liquid graphite. Do not use oil-based lubricants. Some cylinders are stiff when they are new and will loosen up with usage.

Door Closers

Periodic adjustments to closers are not necessary, however the closers can be adjusted to best accommodate different circumstances (see product data). Periodically lubricate the pivot points on closer arms with a small amount of silicone base lubricant to ensure smooth operation and long life.

Hinges

To remove dirt from hinges, simply wipe with a soft damp cloth. This also applies to trim and auxiliary hardware (stops, pulls, push plates, etc.). For all products, abrasive cleaner or lacquer thinner should not be used to clean the surface. To do so may void any warranty for the product.

Please feel free to call us with any questions.