

affinityTM

surfaces

Care & Maintenance Guide

Certain steps do need to be taken to avoid misuse and ensure that Affinity will provide you with years of enjoyment. The following guidelines will help prevent damage from occurring to your surface.

Preventing Heat Damage

Affinity withstands heat better than ordinary surface materials. However, all solid surface products will expand and contract with changes in temperature. Excess heat may result in scorching, cracking, or seam separation. We offer the following suggestions to avoid heat related issues:

Hot Pots: Never place them directly on your countertop. Use a solid trivet with rubber feet.

Portable Appliances: Please use them with caution. This includes electric frying pans, deep fat fryers, portable woks, crock pots and the like. Such appliances should only be used on solid trivets with rubber feet. Items such as toasters and coffee pots generally do not generate enough heat to cause problems, but caution should be exercised. While portable appliances on rubber feet may seem harmless, such appliances can radiate an enormous amount of heat down onto the surface of the countertop. Place such items on a solid trivet with rubber feet.

Cook Tops and Ranges: Heat damage next to cook tops and ranges is possible, most often seen as cracks in corners or near the largest burners. Vent hoods or downdraft fans should be used while cooking as the constant air flow will help moderate hot spots. Oversized pots that cantilever past the edge of the range or cook top can also radiate excessive heat down into the countertop and should be avoided whenever possible.

Pots should not be allowed in close proximity to a back splash and high output burners should be used sparingly. Once a pan has reached the proper cooking temperature the heat setting should be reduced to prevent overheating.

Other Types Of Damage

Avoid using strong chemicals around your countertops. Surfaces exposed to such chemicals should be immediately flushed with water as prolonged contact can damage the surface and require extensive repairs.

Cutting Boards

Always use cutting boards and avoid cutting directly on your surface.

Harsh Chemicals

Avoid harsh chemicals such as stove and drain cleansers, paint removers, or any acetone-based products. If contact occurs, flush with soapy water, rinse, and towel dry. Nail polish should be removed with a non-acetone based nail polish remover and flushed with water.

Boiling Water & Hot Grease

Run cool water when pouring boiling water into Affinity sink bowls and allow hot grease to cool before pouring into the sink or disposal.

Pressure and Weight

Never stand or place heavy objects on your countertops.

Cleaning Surfaces & Sinks

To properly clean Affinity Surfaces, we suggest the following:

Stains and Dirt: Use soapy water or an ammonia-based cleaning product, rinse and towel dry.

Water Spots: Wipe surface with a damp soft towel and wipe dry.

Disinfecting: Occasionally wipe surface with a diluted 1:1 ratio of water and household bleach.

Difficult Stains: Spray stain with a household cleaner and wait for 30 seconds. Wipe surface with a damp, soft towel and wipe dry. If stain persists, repeat process and if necessary refer to the directions for removing cuts & scratches.

To properly clean your sinks, we suggest the following:

Acrylic Sinks: Clean your sink with a green Scotch-Brite pad in a circular motion. Rinse the sink and wipe dry. Combine with a non-abrasive cleaner such as Soft-Scrub if desired.

Stainless Steel Sinks: Clean your stainless steel sink once a week. Drying your sink with a soft towel after each use will reduce water spots. Always apply stainless steel cleaner / polish with a nonabrasive cloth or sponge, working with, not across, the grain.

Avoid steel wool, wire brushes or abrasive sponge pads. Cleaners containing chloride are not recommended. If used, rinse the surface immediately to prevent corrosion.





Removing Cuts & Scratches

Affinity Surfaces is completely renewable. You can remove minor cuts and scratches using Micro-Mesh finishing pads found in the Affinity Care & Maintenance Kit. For more information on how to obtain a care and maintenance kit, or for extensive and difficult repairs, please contact your dealer or the professional fabricator/installer (PFI) that installed your Affinity product.

When used properly, Micro-Mesh finishing pads will provide you with the best finish imaginable. No special tools are required and you will be able to achieve a matte to a high gloss finish without the use of water or buffing compounds, making them perfect for minor repairs.

First, test any repairs in an inconspicuous area. Assess the severity of the scratch and begin with the finest grit finishing pad needed to remove the scratch. The finishing pads are color coded and range from roughest to finest: White, Yellow, Green, Peach, Lilac, Blue, and Gray.

Sand the scratch in a straight line, periodically switching direction by 90 degrees until the scratch is removed. If the pad you selected takes too long, try the next rougher grit finishing pad. To reduce dust during sanding, mist the surface with water and periodically rinse the finishing pad to remove residue.

Once the scratch is removed, clean the area with water and dry with a clean, soft towel. Select the next finer finishing grit pad and repeat the process. Rub over a larger area to blend the repair area and avoid any low spots.

Continue the process using finer grit finishing pads and clean well between each step until the desired level of gloss is achieved. Upon completion, rinse out all pads and air dry before putting them away. Micro-Mesh pads are reusable!

*Follow the steps in the illustration to properly remove scratches and restore your countertop to the desired shine and lustre.

Note that the finish of any countertop is often subjective depending on the color, pattern, and location. Fewer or additional steps may be required in order to achieve the look you desire. Check the finish between grits until you become familiar with using the finishing pads. Spend approximately the same amount of time on each step. Be sure to completely remove sanding residue before moving on to the next step. Gloss finishes will require additional time.

Additional Affinity Care & Maintenance kits can be purchased from your dealer or professional fabricator/installer (PFI).

DEEP SCRATCH REMOVAL:
WHITE

MATTE FINISH:
WHITE, YELLOW

SATIN FINISH:
WHITE, YELLOW, GREEN, PEACH

GLOSS FINISH:
WHITE, YELLOW, GREEN, PEACH, LILAC, BLUE

GLOSS FINISH:
WHITE, YELLOW, GREEN, PEACH, LILAC, BLUE, GRAY