



PALGARD™

Care and Maintenance

Update: Des 2017

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This document covers the care and maintenance of the following polycarbonate sheet products:

PALGARD™

General Polycarbonate Cleaning Guidelines

- Never use abrasive or high alkaline cleaners on any Palram polycarbonate products
- Do not leave cleaners on Palram polycarbonate for extended periods of time. Rinse immediately with cold, clean water.
- Do not apply cleaners in direct sunlight.
- Never use sharp objects, squeegees or razors on polycarbonate.
- Do not clean with gasoline.
- Always practice safety first and never step directly on a polycarbonate panel.
- Always test cleaners in a small inconspicuous area prior to cleaning entire panel to insure against adverse results.
- Avoid allowing the pressure washer spray tip to come too close to the panel. Pressure washers often have enough pressure at the spray tip to penetrate or tear the panel.
- Avoid dry cleaning, as sand and dust particles clinging to the exterior of the panels may scratch the surface.

General Cleaning Instructions for all Products Listed at Left

All of the Palram polycarbonate products listed at left can be easily cleaned utilizing a soft sponge or cloth made from 100% cotton using lukewarm water and a mild dishwashing detergent. All surfaces should then be rinsed with cold water and dried with soft cotton cloth to reduce water spotting. In some instances this procedure may be inadequate and will require the use of additional cleaning agents. The agents listed below have all been approved for use at room temperature:

- Methyl alcohol
- Ethyl alcohol
- Butyl alcohol
- Isopropyl alcohol
- Heptane
- Hexane
- Petroleum ether (BP 65°)
- VM&P Naphtha

As is the case with all thermoplastic materials, certain chemicals can cause structural as well as surface damage and precautions need to be taken to avoid any aggressive cleaning agents. Should you desire to use a cleaning agent not on the approved list, please contact a Palram representative to inquire about our in-house chemical compatibility testing capabilities.

Specific cleaning instructions for large roofing and wall applications

Palram polycarbonate products used for large commercial roofing and wall applications can be cleaned in the same fashion as mentioned previously; sometimes, due to the sheets physical installation location, different cleaning apparatus need to be utilized. When polycarbonate products are installed in such applications, utilization of a pressure washer with a fanned nozzle and mild detergent can assist in removing dirt buildup, algae and mold from the panels. This also eliminates the need to step directly on panels while attempting to clean unreachable areas.

Another method of cleaning large structures requires the use of a long-poled, car or RV washing pad. First, soak the panels with a mild soap and water solution, then proceed to scrub the panels with the car washing pad. Finish with a clean, cold water rinse.

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Graffiti Removal on PALGARD

 *Recommended for this product only.*

The abrasion resistant surface of PALGARD provide increased protection against chemical attack. Even Graffiti, such as spray paint are easily and quickly removed. Although the above sheets have a abrasion resistant coating, the use of abrasive cleaners and/or sharp cleaning instruments that may damage or scratch the coating should be avoided. The recommended cleaning procedure for the removal of Graffiti etc. is as follows:

1. For removal of paints, marking pen inks, lipstick, etc., the use Butyl Cellosolve or Isopropyl Alcohol is generally effective. The use of masking tape, adhesive tape or lint removal tools works well for lifting o old weathered paints.
2. To remove labels, stickers, etc., the use of VM&P Naphtha or Isopropyl Alcohol is generally effective. If the solvent will not penetrate sticker material, apply heat (hair dryer) to soften the adhesive and promote removal.
3. As a final step, wash with warm soap solution, followed by a rinse with clean water.

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