

Olee Creative® Acrylic Artwork, and Acrylic and Polycarbonate Panel, Cleaning and Maintenance Instructions

NOTE: Regular cleaning of Olee Creative products, using correct procedures, with compatible cleaners, is recommended to maintain the product's appearance. Use only clean, nick-free tools and wipe gently only in one direction. Do not use ammonia, chlorine, or organic-based cleaning products..

The following cleaning techniques are based on standard industry practices.

General Cleaning for Acrylic

- 1) If there is dust, wipe it off with a soft, damp lint-free cloth.
- 2) If it is soiled, not gritty, use water and a soft cloth.
- 3) If there is heavier soil, wash acrylic sheet with a mild soap or detergent and lukewarm water solution. Use a clean soft cloth or sponge and as much solution as possible. Rinse well.
- 4) Spray the cleaner onto the cloth, **not** onto the panel or image. `
- 5) Wipe down the panel with the wet cloth.
- 6) Dry by blotting with a damp cloth or chamois.
- 7) To remove more difficult stains, see instructions below.
- 8) Bleach may be used as long as it is highly diluted.

Polishing

Apply a thin, even coat of a good grade of automobile paste wax (not a cleaner-wax combination) with a soft clean cloth to protect the surface of the sheet and maintain its luster. Buff lightly with a clean cotton flannel or jersey cloth. After polishing, wipe with a clean damp cloth to ground any electro-static charges which may attract dust particles.

Cleaning Contaminations

Masking Paper Adhesive: Use a hydrocarbon solvent such as **VM&P naphtha, **kerosene, or **mineral spirits. Follow with a detergent-water wash and a CLEAN water* rinse.

Water-soluble Contaminants: Wash with a detergent-water solution followed by a fresh water* rinse.

Fingerprints: Wipe with soft CLEAN cloth very lightly dampened with isopropyl alcohol. Avoid contact with the edges of the sheet since they may be areas of high stress and crack the acrylic sheet. Use of alcohol can damage acrylic. Use this method as a last resort.

Oil-soluble Contaminants: Use a hydrocarbon solvent such as **VM&P naphtha, **kerosene, or **mineral spirits. Follow with a detergent-water wash and a CLEAN water* rinse.

Spray-masking Compounds: Wipe the area with a damp synthetic sponge then wipe the surface with **VM&P naphtha.

Grease-forming Compounds: Wash with **kerosene or **mineral spirits. Followed by washing with a detergent-water solution and a CLEAN water* rinse.

Tar, grease, paint, etc: Use a good grade of **VM&P naphtha or **kerosene. Follow with a detergent-water wash and a CLEAN water* rinse.

Silicone Oils and Greases Avoid contact completely: Once contaminated with silicones, acrylic sheet is virtually impossible to clean.

***Note:** When a clean water rinse is specified, use distilled or deionized water to prevent water spotting.

****Users of the above solvents should become familiar with their properties to handle them safely.** Because of crazing, toxicity, flammability, etc., we recommend extreme caution when using the above solvents. Obtain safety and use information from the suppliers. Follow instructions carefully.

Scratch Removal

Scratch removal should only be used if the surface imperfections are too deep to be removed by light buffing and the resulting optical distortion can be tolerated. Test to see if sanding is required. Rub a fingernail along the scratch and if it is felt, then sanding is required.

Use the finest sandpaper that will remove the imperfections. Coarse paper will only create more scratches. Open coat sandpaper should be used. Try using 600 grit sandpaper wrapped around a rubber padded sanding block. Sand over the scratch using increasingly larger areas of sanding.

If the scratch is not removed step down to 400 grit. The sanding should be done in directions 30 degrees apart to produce a diamond pattern. After sanding and stepping down to 600 grit, polish the acrylic.

The following precautions should be observed:

Do not use disc or belt sanders dry. Wet sanders are preferred but dry orbital sanders can be used with care. With mechanical sanders, water or oil coolants are desirable. Heat generation during the sanding operation may degrade the physical properties of the sheet.

Points to Remember

1. Do not use abrasive cleaners, chemicals or solvents to clean your panels. Do not use high alkaline cleaners (high pH or ammoniated).
2. Do not leave cleaners sitting on graphics; wash off immediately.
3. Do not apply cleaners under direct sunlight or at elevated temperatures.
4. Do not clean graphics with unapproved cleaners. When in doubt, seek guidance.
5. To avoid scratching do not use scrapers, squeegees, razors or other sharp instruments or abrasive pads-- these may permanently scratch.
6. Do test any cleaning solution on a small section of the panel before using.

Special Note

The above recommendations and cleaners are intended as a source of information and are given without a guarantee and do not constitute a warranty. Purchasers should independently test cleaning agents and methods, prior to use, to determine their suitability. If requested, a separate Olee Creative warranty is available.