

FAUX LEATHER

CARE AND CLEANING GUIDE

CLEANING

NYTEK®, a specially engineered nylon fiber matrix, is designed with a built-in stain resistant finish that will not wash or wear off and does not require a topically applied spray. The following simple cleaning methods will ensure the long-lasting beauty and elegance of these NYTEK® products.

ORDINARY CLEANING

Ordinary dirt, smudges and water-soluble stains such as coffee, tea, juice, soft drinks, milk, beer, and wine can be removed with mild soap and water. Use a clean cloth or soft sponge to dab the stain with soapy water. Remove the soap solution by wiping the area with a cloth and clean water. Dry with a soft lint-free cloth or towel.

STUBBORN STAINS

Very stubborn stains or non-water soluble stains can be removed with a mild solvent such as naphtha (lighter fluid, paint thinner). Lightly wipe the stain with a clean cloth moistened with solvent. Blot the area with a dry cloth and dry.

INK AND MAGIC MARKER STAINS

Many ink and magic marker stains can be removed using a solution of one part Wisk detergent and one part rubbing alcohol. Dab lightly with a moist cloth, but do not rub. As the ink loosens, blot the area with a dry cloth. Repeat if necessary. Rinse with a cloth dampened in clean water, and dry with a soft cloth.

COMMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS

For general cleaning of commercial installations, use mild soap and water. Avoid using cleaners containing abrasives or bleach. Disinfectants can be used provided they are evaluated beforehand. Technical bulletins outlining specific cleaning and disinfecting procedures for NYTEK® products used in healthcare applications are available.

CLEANING CHART | HEALTHCARE | TOPICAL FINISHES | SPECIAL STAINS
INK | BLOOD | PAINT | MASKING TAPE | GLUE | WHITE-OUT



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CLEANING CHART

STAIN REMOVAL CHART & INSTRUCTIONS:

- Select the appropriate cleaner according to the chart below.
- Begin with the cleaner listed first, allowing the spot to dry.
- If the stain remains, proceed to the next recommended cleaner.

STAINS	CLEANERS
Coffee, Tea, Milk	1
Juice, Soft Drinks	1
Wine, Beer	1
Mustard, Catsup, Chocolate	1
Cooking Oil, Mayonnaise	1 2
Crayon, Lipstick	1 2
Urine, Blood	1
Body Oils	1
Ink	3
Grease, Shoe Polish, Motor Oil	2 1
Furniture Polish, Ink	2 1

CLEANERS:

1. Mild soap (such as Joy, Dove, Ivory or other hand-dishwashing liquids) and water. Use a clean cloth or soft sponge to dab the stain with soapy water. Remove the soap solution by wiping the area with a cloth and clean water. Dry with a soft lint-free cloth or towel.
2. Mild petroleum solvent such as naphtha (lighter fluid) or mineral spirits (paint thinner). Lightly wipe the stain with a clean cloth that has been moistened with solvent. Blot the area and allow to dry.
3. One part Wisk detergent and one part rubbing alcohol. Dab lightly with a cloth that has been moistened with the solution. Do not rub. As the ink loosens, blot the area with a dry cloth. Repeat if necessary. Rinse with a cloth dampened in clean water and dry with a soft cloth. Ballpoint pen ink can be removed with Maji-Clean Ink Sticks that are available through Majilite.

NOTE: Exercise proper care when using solvents or solvent cleaners. Some solvents are flammable. Read and follow manufacturers directions on labels. Use with adequate ventilation and wear protective gloves.



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HEALTHCARE

CARE & CLEANING GUIDE FOR HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS:

NYTEK® faux leathers are used in dental chairs, examination tables, hospital furniture, and other health care products that should be cleaned and disinfected frequently. Majilite has evaluated several cleaners/disinfectants and recommends the following:

Cleaning: Wipe the NYTEK® with a mild soap and water solution using a soft clean cloth or sponge. Avoid cleaners containing abrasives. Rinse with clean water, dry with a soft cloth or towel.

Disinfecting with bleach: Clean the faux leather of gross filth (loose dirt and debris). Prepare a bleach solution at the desired concentration up to 10% (5000ppm available chlorine). Use an EPA registered product whenever possible and follow the manufacturer's label instructions. Spray to wet the surface with the bleach solution. Allow it to remain for no longer than 10 minutes. Thoroughly rinse with clean water. Allow to dry before use.

Disinfecting: The following products are acceptable based on testing: Dilute as directed and apply according to the manufacturers label instructions.

PRODUCT	TYPE	MANUFACTURER
Birex se	Phenol	Biotrol International
MaxiSpray	Phenol/Glutaraldehyde	Henry Schein
Omni II	Phenol	Certol International, Inc.
Precise Hospital Foam Cleaner	Phenol	CalTech Industries, Inc.
ProSpray & ProSpray Wipes	Phenol	Certol International
Sporicidin Antimicrobial Solution	Phenol	Contec, Inc.
Sporicidin Antimicrobial Towlettes	Phenol	Contec, Inc.
Procide Spray	Phenol	Certol International, Inc.
Cetylcide II	Quaternary compounds	Cetylite Ind. Inc.
Madacide IFD	Quaternary compounds	Mada Medical Products, Inc.
Cavicide	Quaternary compounds 17% isopropanol	Metrex Research Corp.
Maxi Spray Plus	Quaternary compounds 17% isopropanol	Metrex Research Corp.
Sani-Cloth Plus	Quaternary compounds 10-12% isopropanol	PDI
Sani-cloth HB	Quaternary compounds	PDI

Majilite does not include Iodophors, such as Biocide, Wescodyne, ProMedyne and Iodofive, on the acceptable list at this time due to concerns about possible staining of the NYTEK® surface.

The company does not recommend use the following products on NYTEK®:

- Alcohols such as isopropyl alcohol and ethanol
- Products with levels of alcohols above 20% such as: Coe Spray II, The Pump, DisCide, Ultra Disinfectant Spray, Citrex Hospital Spray Disinfectant, Super Sani-Cloth, DisCide Ultra Towelettes, Lysol, Lysol II, Lysol Professional

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HEALTHCARE

Majilite does not endorse any particular project's specific ability to clean and/or disinfect; we only verify that the approved products have been shown not to harm the NYTEK® finish. Our evaluations were based upon the disinfectants as currently formulated and may not reflect possible future reformulations or modifications by the manufacturers.

Majilite continues to examine the effects of various commercial disinfectants on NYTEK®. Our laboratories are available to test specific products upon a customer's request.

The NYTEK® faux leather collection includes: Action, Attaché, Baby Ostrich, Brushed Finesse, Burnished Metal, Cane, Courier, Deco, Destiny, Finesse, Glazed Finesse, Grandeur, Metals & Pearls Finesse, Moccasin, Nuance, Panache, Pearl Raindrop, Prestige, Satchel, Starlite, Vista etc.



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TOPICAL FINISHES

SCOTCHGARD AND TEFLON

Majilite does not recommend using stain treatment products like Scotchgard or Teflon on any of the finished leather grains of the NYTEK® line. Refer to the CARE AND CLEANING section on NOVASUEDE® for a discussion of these finishes.

These finishes change the fabric fibers' surface tension by coating them with a Teflon fluorocarbon resin or silicone that prevents dirt and liquid spills from penetrating. The resin is applied via a spray, pad, or other similar process. When the volatiles evaporate, the respective resins are left behind, coated onto the fabric fibers.

NYTEK® products already have an inherently stain resistant finish. Liquids bead up on them and are easily wiped up. Coating this finish with these topical finishes will not cause water to bead up more. Also the Teflon resin will not penetrate through the leather finish to coat the nylon microfibers.

NYTEK® Does Not Need Vinyl Dressings and Leather Conditioners

Since NYTEK® does not contain oils or plasticizers like leather or vinyl, it does not "dry out" or become stiff with time. It is not necessary to apply anything to its surface to "restore it". Periodic cleaning with soap and water and sensible care and use are all that are needed.

Proper Cleaning Methods for NYTEK®'s Gloss and Simulated Leather Surface

One of NYTEK®'s most appealing features is how it mimics leather's gloss and surface feel. Plus it's easy to clean with water and a soft cloth or sponge. If necessary, use a dilute solution of a mild neutral soap such as Woolite, or a hand dishwashing liquid like Joy, Ivory Liquid, or Dove. Then rinse the cloth in warm water, wipe the material and let it air dry. Once dry, the original look and feel of the material should be restored.

NYTEK® does not need special products like Armor All to restore its surface since it does not contain oils or plasticizers that make it "dry out" or become stiff with time. While our laboratory studies have not shown them to be damaging to NYTEK®, they alter the gloss and surface feel of the material, diminish its similarity to leather, and make it feel more like plastic or vinyl.



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SPECIAL STAINS

NYTEK® CLEANING

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Stubborn Stains

Very stubborn stains or non-water soluble stains can be removed with a mild solvent such as naphtha (lighter fluid, paint thinner). Lightly wipe the stain with a clean cloth moistened with solvent. Blot the area with a dry cloth and dry.

Ink and Magic Marker Stains

Many ink and magic marker stains can be removed using a solution of one part Wisk detergent and one part rubbing alcohol. Dab lightly with a moist cloth, but do not rub. As the ink loosens, blot the area with a dry cloth. Repeat if necessary. Rinse with a cloth dampened in clean water, and dry with a soft cloth.

Commercial Installations

For general cleaning of commercial installations, use mild soap and water. Avoid using cleaners containing abrasives or bleach. Disinfectants can be used provided they are evaluated beforehand. Technical bulletins outlining specific cleaning and disinfecting procedures for NYTEK® products used in health care applications are available.

NOVASUEDE® CLEANING

NOVASUEDE®'s special technology allows for easy care and cleaning.

Liquid spills tend to "bead up" on the surface; often all that is needed is quick action with a dry cloth to absorb the liquid.

Remove dust deposits, prevent soil build-up, and keep the suede surface looking crisp and new with normal, regular vacuuming with a soft brush attachment.

NOVASUEDE® can be cleaned and groomed with a Magik brush, Miracle brush, or similar lint removal brush. Use Scotch tape or a soft eraser to remove light stains and smudge marks.

Water-soluble Stains

Water-soluble stains from coffee, tea, juice, soft drinks, milk, beer, wine, and other drinks can be removed by dabbing the affected area with clean water, mild soapy water, or a 50/50 solution of water and white vinegar.

Blotting is always preferable to rubbing for stain removal.

Remove excess soap or vinegar solution by dabbing with clean water and blotting with a clean cloth.

Allow the material to dry naturally or dry quickly with a hair dryer using the warm setting.

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SPECIAL STAINS

“Rings” noticed after drying are usually the result of some residual soap or cleaning solution remaining on the fabric and can be removed by cleaning again with water.

Non Water-soluble Stains

Use a petroleum solvent such as naphtha (lighter fluid) or mineral spirits to remove non-water soluble stains such as grease, oil, and shoe polish.

Dab the stained area with a clean cloth moistened with solvent and then blot with a clean, dry cloth. Repeat if necessary.

Work from the edges of the stain toward the center to avoid enlarging it.

Rubbing the area carefully with fine sandpaper usually can repair surface damage and minor cigarette burns.

Cleaning Removable Covers

Machine wash separately, using the cool or warm water setting on the delicate cycle.

Use mild detergent without pouring it directly onto the material and no bleach. Spin and tumble dry on a low setting, or spin and hang to dry in a shady area. Do not twist or wring.

NOVASUEDE® covers also can be professionally dry cleaned using a clean perchloroethylene solvent and these settings: short cycle, tumble dry warm, steam followed by brushing to restore nap.

A wet extraction process, available through most professional cleaning services, is recommended to clean widespread dirt or for an overall cleaning of upholstered pieces.

Although NOVASUEDE® is spill resistant, supplementary treatments such as Scotchgard can be used for further protection. Test a sample to ensure that the texture or color of the material will not be affected.

Restoring the Nap

After cleaning, it is important to restore the nap by lightly brushing with a soft bristle brush after the NOVASUEDE® is completely dry. Regular routine vacuuming, immediate attention to accidental spills, and occasional brushing generally are all that is required to maintain the luxurious feel and appearance of NOVASUEDE®.



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INK

REMOVAL OF BALL POINT PEN INK FROM NYTEK®:

Cleaning ink stains varies because different inks are composed of different materials. However, clean any ink spot as soon as possible to increase the chances of removal. Begin working with small areas, starting with the least visible area to test the cleaning technique's success.

Majilite's Ink Removal Stick is designed for removal of ink, lipstick, and other stains. It can be used on any of our faux leather products: FINESSE®, BABY OSTRICH®, DESTINY®, and PRESTIGE®. It is not recommended for NOVASUEDE®. Use the stick as directed on the label. Rub some onto the stain, wait thirty seconds and remove the stain with a clean cloth. Repeat if necessary. For stubborn stains, allow the Ink Removal Stick gel to remain on the FINESSE® overnight. Ink Removal Sticks can be ordered from Majilite Customer Service for a nominal fee at 978-441-6800.

In place of the stick, use the following procedure with common ingredients:

In a small cup, mix one-part full-strength Wisk detergent with one part rubbing alcohol, which is commonly composed of 70% isopropyl alcohol and 30% water.

Wet a small portion of a soft white cloth and apply the cleaning solution to the ink stain and blot up the stain. Do not rub. Blot the cleaning solution with a dry cloth and repeat step 2 several times to extract as much of the stain as possible. This will keep the ink from spreading unnecessarily.

Dab a soft or medium bristle toothbrush into the cleaning solution and gently brush the stain in a swirling motion. As the ink loosens, blot the cleaning solution with a dry cloth and repeat step 3 until the stain is gone (usually about 3 or 4 times). Use the least amount of solution possible and clean and dry in several steps rather than saturate the NYTEK® material and attempt to extract the stain all at once.

Extract the cleaning solution from the NYTEK® with a damp cloth. Several rinses will be necessary to extract all the soap. Wisk has a characteristic blue color and may impart a bluish tinge to the lighter colors of FINESSE® but this will disappear as the Wisk is extracted with a damp cloth.

Allow the fabric to air dry or dry with a hair dryer on a warm setting.

Check for residual soap evidenced by a bluish color or a soapy feel. If necessary, repeat steps 4 and 5.

For general cleaning, use water and a mild soap such as Woolite® following the manufacturers directions.



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BLOOD

REMOVAL OF BALL POINT PEN INK FROM NYTEK®:

- Take appropriate precautions to prevent the spread of disease when handling blood or blood products.
- Most fresh blood stains can be removed by wiping with a damp cloth or sponge with cold water.
- For fresh blood, pat the stain with a cloth dabbed in cold water, and then blot the stain with a clean dry cloth. Repeat the process until no more blood transfers to the cloth.
- Dried blood may be more difficult to soften and remove.
- Before washing, gently scrape the dried blood with a fingernail file or similar object. Avoid bruising the suede. Use a soft toothbrush to break up the blood, then use the cold water and cloth method discussed above.
- If the water alone does not work, try a dilute solution of a mild soap, such as Woolite, Joy, Dove, or Ivory, in cold water.
- The rest of the blood should flake off fairly easily once some is removed. Follow the washing with an appropriate disinfectant.
- Do not use warm or hot water as it may set the blood stain into the suede.

Please see our discussion of disinfectants in the section on CARE AND CLEANING GUIDE FOR FINESSE® IN HEALTH CARE APPLICATIONS.



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PAINT

WET PAINT: WATER BASED

Blot up as much of the wet paint as possible; avoid spreading it. Wash the material with warm soapy water, then follow with warm water to remove the soap residue. Use a soft toothbrush to extricate paint worked into the valleys of the leather grain. Do not scrub the material; rather use a soft swirling motion to loosen the paint.

WET PAINT: OIL BASED

Blot up as much of the wet paint as possible; avoid spreading it. Wet a soft cloth or sponge with mineral spirits and wipe up the paint residue. Mineral spirits is a clear water white solvent sold in hardware and paint stores, often as paint thinner for oil-based paints. A combustible liquid, it is a distillate of petroleum and has a mild odor similar to kerosene. Keep it away from ignition sources, use with adequate ventilation, and follow the manufacturer's label instructions. Avoid alcohols, ketones such as acetone, and nail polish removers.

Several cleanings may be necessary to remove the last of the paint and to avoid a hazy or chalky appearance on the NYTEK® surface once the solvent has evaporated. In the final cleanings, be sure to use a new, clean cloth to avoid transferring paint back to the NYTEK® surface.

DRIED PAINT: WATER BASED OR OIL BASED

If the paint has dried, work on small areas. Wet the paint with mineral spirits. The mineral spirits will help to loosen the dried paint from the NYTEK® surface. The dried paint must be gently scraped off using a fingernail or a fingernail file to get under the edge of the paint.



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MASKING TAPE

One of the side effects of masking tape being left on NYTEK® for a period of time, e.g., when a plastic cover is inadvertently taped to a chair's upholstery during packaging, is that some of the adhesive remains on the surface of the material after removal. These rubbery adhesives do not clean well with soap and water or spray cleaners.

CLEANING THE TAPE ADHESIVE

- Remove as much adhesive as possible by applying fresh masking tape to the affected area, rubbing it lightly, and then pulling it off rapidly.
- The new tape will not form a strong bond to the NYTEK® surface, but will stick to the adhesive residue on it and will pull some of it off.
- Working with a small area at a time, wet the edge of the adhesive with a clean white cloth with mineral spirits.*
- Gently roll the adhesive into a ball and pull it off the NYTEK® surface.
- After the adhesive has been removed, clean the affected area with mineral spirits and a new clean white cloth. Wipe off any excess and allow the piece to air dry. Some adhesive remains if the affected area still feels sticky or has a hazy appearance. Repeat the process until the NYTEK® is restored to its original color and gloss.

*Mineral spirits is a clear water white solvent sold in hardware and paint stores, often as paint thinner for oil-based paints. A combustible liquid, it is a distillate of petroleum and has a mild odor similar to kerosene. Keep it away from ignition sources, use with adequate ventilation and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Avoid alcohols, ketones such as acetone, and nail polish removers.



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GLUE

The chemical composition of glues varies widely and it may not be possible to remove every glue from NYTEK® products. For water-based or rubber-based (in petroleum solvent) glues, the following procedure may be helpful:

- Working with a small area, wet a clean white cloth with mineral spirits.*
- Wet the edge of the adhesive with the mineral spirits, and gently roll it into a ball, pulling it off the NYTEK® surface.
- After the adhesive has been removed, clean the affected area with mineral spirits on a new clean white cloth.
- Wipe off any excess solvent and allow the piece to air dry. If the affected area still feels sticky or has a hazy appearance, then some adhesive remains.
- Repeat the process until the NYTEK® is restored to its original color and gloss.

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WHITE-OUT®, LIQUID PAPER® OR SIMILAR CORRECTION FLUIDS

WET CORRECTION FLUID

Correction fluids will dry in one to two minutes, so quick action is necessary. If the White Out is still wet, blot it with a cloth, sponge or paper towel. Avoid spreading.

DRIED CORRECTION FLUID

Rub masking tape on the dried spot, pulling it off quickly. Push the tape down into the grain with the wooden handle of a kitchen utensil. Repeat three or four times until White Out no longer transfers to the tape.

To clean a large spill or several spots:

- Work with a small area or one spot at a time.
- Dip a soft toothbrush into mineral spirits,* shake off the excess, and brush the remainder of the stain in a circular motion. The White Out will fade as it begins to dissolve.
- Blot it up quickly with a clean, dry soft cloth to avoid spreading. Several cleanings may be necessary to remove all of the White Out and to avoid a hazy or chalky appearance on the NYTEK® surface once the solvent has evaporated.
- In the final cleaning, use a new, clean cloth to avoid re-transferring the White-Out. If necessary, lightly scrape the last of the White-Out from the valleys of the leather grain with fingernails.
- Allow to air dry. If odor is a problem, wash out the mineral spirits with soapy water or a dilute solution of Woolite or a mild dishwashing liquid.

* Mineral spirits is a clear water white solvent sold in hardware and paint stores, often as paint thinner for oil-based paints. A combustible liquid, it is a distillate of petroleum and has a mild odor similar to kerosene. Keep it away from ignition sources, use with adequate ventilation, and follow the manufacturer's instructions. Avoid alcohols, ketones such as acetone, and nail polish removers.



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