

January 4, 2013

CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS - ARMSTRONG CEILING PANELS & SUSPENSION SYSTEMS PRODUCTS

Due to differences in the finishes and textures of our various ceiling, wall and suspension systems products, each product or product family requires a different method of cleaning. Listed below are the products by product family or specific product name. A letter or letters that refer to the list of cleaning methods that are found following the list of products indicate the various cleaning methods.

Product or Product Family	Cleaning Method
Armatuff	A or B
Black Painted Ceiling Tiles, Ultima Create!, Soundscapes Non-White Products	I
Cirrus Family	A
Ceramaguard	C or D
Clean Room FL	C or D
Clean Room VL/VL	K
Cortega Family	A or B
Designer Family	A
Dune Family	A
Endura	A
Painted Nubby	A
Optima Family	A
Pebble	B
Shasta, Random Fissured, Pebble,	B
Fine Fissured Family	A or B
*School Zone Fine Fissured	A or B
Fissured Family	A or B
Georgian Family	A or B
Georgian High Washability	C or D
Graphis Finetex, and Rustex, Ledges	A or B
Suspension Systems, Axiom Perimeter Trim	F
Infusions	J
Mesa	A
Metaphors	H
MetalWorks Including Effects Finishes	G
Serpentina	G
SoundScapes Canopies, Shapes and Blades (white)	A
Soundsoak	E
Tierra	A or B
TinCraft	A or B
TinCraft Colors	A
Tundra	A or B
Ultima Family	A or B
Ultima High Washability	K
*Ultima HealthZone, Ultima Create! HealthZone, Optima HealthZone,	K
VPO Painted Ceiling Tiles	C
WoodWorks, Metalworks with Wood Veneer	H

Cleaning Methods

A - A commercial vacuum system with 100-inches/H₂O vacuum capacity is recommended for removing dust particles. The vacuum system cleaning attachment should be a 3" diameter wand with natural hair bristle. A HEPA vacuum filter is recommended to minimize air borne dust during the cleaning process. Care must be taken while vacuuming to avoid excessive pressure. Use a blotting action to minimize potential loss of surface texture.



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B - Using a damp cloth or sponge with a mild detergent, wipe lightly on surface of board to remove dirt

C - Use a damp cloth or sponge with a mild detergent to wipe with medium pressure on surface to be cleaned.

D - Using a soft bristled brush with water and a mild detergent, gently scrub the face of the product.

E - Routine maintenance consists of frequent vacuuming to minimize dirt accumulation. A dry shampoo from a spray can is applied to the fabric as foam and worked into the fabric with a damp sponge. The residue is then vacuumed to remove the foam and dirt. A wet shampoo is a sprayed cleaning agent that foams after it is applied. Work in with damp sponge and vacuum to remove residue.

Badly soiled fabric can be cleaned using a steam cleaning or hot water extraction process. Small residential steam cleaners can be used much in the same manner as when cleaning upholstery. However, be very careful not to over wet the panel surface since this can cause fabric to delaminate. Commercial steam cleaners should use their upholstery tool since this applies only a fine mist and will not over wet the fabric. The commercial vacuum should be reduced to about 30 psi to prevent damage to the panel.

Vinyl-faced Soundsoak can be cleaned with soapy water, using a sponge or cloth.

F - Use a mild household cleaner like Fantastic and a soft cloth. Before cleaning the grid, remove the ceiling panels to prevent cleaning solution or dirt from getting on the panels.

G - Abrasive or strong chemical detergent should not be used. A mild detergent diluted in warm water, applied with a soft cloth, rinsed and finally wiped off with a chamois will maintain the ceiling in good condition. Oily or stubborn stains, if not removed by washing, can be wiped with products like Fantastic, but care is necessary to avoid affecting the gloss level of the paint finish.

H - Use a clean, dry, soft, white cloth to wipe off any dirt or greasy fingerprints. If this does not clean the panel, use a damp clean soft white cloth or sponge with a mild detergent to wipe the panel.

I - Use a feather duster or vacuum to remove dust from colored products (See note ***).

J - Avoid wiping the panel surfaces with abrasive compounds of any type. Panels should be handled with clean gloves/hands to avoid fingerprints. Static charges that may build up after removing protective masking can be removed by wiping the sheet with a cloth dampened with water. Lightly dust with a duster or soft, clean cloth first. Panels may then be cleaned with a small amount of dishwashing liquid in warm water. Keep the cleaning cloth free of grit by frequently rinsing in clean water.

K – Use a damp cloth, sponge or soft bristled brush with water, mild clear detergent or disinfectant. Gently wipe or scrub the panel surface with medium pressure. Lightly sprayed panels with a clear cleaning agent or clear disinfectant and wiped clean with a dry cloth.

-- Where “mild clear detergent” is referenced use a clear dishwashing liquid

-- Where “clear disinfectant” is referenced use sodium hypochlorite, isopropyl alcohol, hydrogen peroxide or quaternary ammonium.

-- For greasy stains – use products like Clear Fantastic

*** We **do not** recommend the use of any cloth either wet or dry because using pressure (rubbing) to clean the finish will result in “burnishing” (or polishing) of the color, which will appear like streaking because of the gloss level change.