

The Care and Maintenance of Solid Surface Counter Tops

Two basic counter top surfaces have been used in Foretravel motorhomes. A high compression laminate, like Formica & Wilsonart, and high density polymer solid surface such as Corian & Durostone are examples.

The care and maintenance of our solid surface counter tops and their associated parts like the lavatory & sink is not difficult and requires supplies you probably already have in you home.

Cleaning can be done using soapy water and a dish rag and then rinsing with clean water to remove any soap residue. If food or a minor stain persists, one of the mildly abrasive cleaners like Softscrub can be used rinsing with water thoroughly when done. I recommend not using a cleaner with silicon dioxide (sand) like Dutch cleanser, for it will leave swirl marks since it is harder than the surface.

If your solid surface becomes scratched during normal use, you can resurface it using a Scotch-Brite pad, some rubbing alcohol and a little "elbow grease". The Scotch-Brite pad is slightly harder than the top and when rubbed on the surface will remove the scratches and even difficult stains. Rubbing alcohol and a clean rag will remove the residue dust and dry quickly so you can determine if more "sanding" is necessary. Keep in mind that alcohol is flammable and care should be taken when using it. The care of the sink, lavatory, sink covers and stove top covers are cleaned and refinished using the same techniques.

Deep scratches may require using wettable sand paper (220 to 320 grit) to sand through the scratch, followed with the Scotch-Brite pad to return the surface to its original Matte/satin finish. Higher gloss finishes can be produced by using finer abrasives and then applying polish, but remember the higher the gloss, the higher the maintenance.

Tops and covers with fractures and pieces broken off can often be repaired to "like new" condition but it usually requires professional help.