

## CLEANING TRESPA METEON

### A good product deserves the best care

Trespa Meteon has a closed pore-free surface which is impenetrable to contamination. In addition, Meteon is highly resistant to a large number of chemicals including many different non-aggressive and aggressive cleaning agents. Although Trespa Meteon requires minimum maintenance, it may be advisable to clean the panels after installation on site and at yearly intervals thereafter, depending on the type of application and the care taken with processing and assembly.

Trespa panels may not just be affected by dust, dirty handprints or algae growth. More serious problems such as soot coating, stubborn graffiti or accidents on site may occur. A wide range of special cleaning agents is available specifically for these types of staining. Do not use cleaning agents with abrasive or polishing components. Only use clean sponges, soft nylon brushes or cloths and avoid brushes with hard rigid bristles. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions closely. Recommended concentrations and soaking times should not be exceeded. Good cleaning results will depend on how well the contamination dissolves under the influence of the cleaning agent used. Some products, such as 2-component paint systems, polyurethane, silicone or other polymers, do not dissolve, making them very difficult to remove. Incomplete removal or removal with an unsuitable product may create a permanent film on the panels. This residue may cause an uneven discolouration of the surface. Obviously Trespa's warranties do not apply in case of improper or incorrectly performed cleaning.

### Critical colours in polluted areas

Not surprisingly, in locations where there is heavy traffic or industrial pollution, Trespa Meteon panels attract as much surface dirt as windows. This shows on lighter colours more quickly than on darker panels.

### Smart details

The effect of dirt on decorative panels varies depending on the cause. An even layer of dust, for instance, is less obvious than streaks or patches caused by rainwater running off and leaving concentrated deposits of dust and dirt.

There are various ways of preventing concentrated dirt marks:

- fitting overhangs with water deflecting edges;
- using flat-headed Trespa fast-fixing screws;
- ensuring that joints do not occur above the centre of another panel.

### Clean working

Some dirt is bound to be generated during construction, but unnecessary soiling should be avoided:

- write location codes on stickers and remove them immediately after assembly;
- adhesives and mastic should be applied accurately;
- mask panel edges while frames are being painted;
- remove severe stains such as paint, cement or tar, before they dry.

### Location coding

If it is not possible to apply location codes to the reverse side of the panels, they should be coded with stickers. Codes written in pencil or chalk and those which are exposed to the weather for long periods of time are more difficult to remove.

### Grease and grime

Dust, splashes of mud, oil, greasy and dirty handprints are easy to remove by washing the panels with a universal household cleaning agent. Rinse and/or wipe the panels after washing to avoid streaks.



### **Paint**

Remove solvent based paint with an organic solvent. Rinse or wipe the panels to avoid streaks. Remove two-part paint immediately with water and/or an organic solvent. Once this type of paint has dried, it cannot be removed.

### **Adhesives, mastic and synthetic resins**

When using adhesives, mastic or synthetic resins always consult the manufacturer's instructions. Not only for the execution instructions but also to determine whether the product is suitable to achieve the desired cleaning result. Remove solvent-based products with an organic solvent. Then rinse and/or wipe to avoid streaking. Remove two-part adhesive or synthetic resin immediately with water and/or an organic solvent. Silicon mastic should be rubbed off with a dry clean cloth and any residues removed with a silicon remover. Once these products have dried, they cannot be removed.

### **Traces of cement and lime**

These should be removed with concentrated acid cleaning agents (i.e. hydrochloric acid), then rinse the panels thoroughly with clean water and wipe them dry.

### **Grease and grime on façades and balconies**

Over time, rain, wind, traffic and industrial pollution will deposit a light to medium layer of dirt on panel surfaces. Depending on the degree of dirt, the panels can be cleaned at yearly intervals or longer. Simply use a window cleaning agent. However, even if the panels aren't cleaned for many years, this won't affect their quality.

### **Severely soiled balcony panels**

Even stubborn marks such as shoe polish and children's crayons are easy to clean from balcony panels using an organic solvent. Rinse the panels with water and wipe down to prevent streaks.

### **Green growth**

Algae and mosses thrive on surfaces which stay mostly cool and damp and are rarely exposed to direct sunlight. The closed surface of Trespa, however prevents them from penetrating the surface, making them easy to wipe off.

### **Graffiti**

The closed surface of Trespa also prevents paint, varnish, adhesive, ink and other graffiti materials from penetrating the surface. The offending items can be easily removed if they are soluble in water, otherwise use organic solvent or special graffiti cleaner. Avoid streaks by rinsing the panel and wiping dry.

### **Damage**

Should the surface of Trespa Meteor be scratched through vandalism, it can be repaired by applying a small amount of acrylic paint with a fine brush to the scratches. Any panels which are accidentally broken should be replaced.

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