



## DATASHEET: CLEANING YOUR KIT BOX PLATES

Our laser cut and engraved acrylic laminate and printed aluminium plates are pretty hardwearing products. However like any material not used or treated with the due care and attention it requires, you can damage them if you are not careful.

Cleaning acrylic or printed metal with solvent based products or methylated spirits is **not recommended** as this can cause cracking or surface blemishes. Household spray polish or foams can also affect the surface and even dull it.

**We recommend IPA (Isopropyl Alcohol).** You can purchase a general 70% solution from a chemist or health shop (as this is widely used as a disinfectant and general cleaning product in the home, hospital, and other environments) or you can get a stronger 90-99% solution (which is what we use here) from industrial cleaning suppliers and even well-known online retailers and outlets.

The benefit of using IPA is that as it cleans, it de-greases, and evaporates to leave no marks or smears.

IPA is widely used in the creative, sign-making, engineering, computing and graphics industry as the go to cleaning / de-greasing product. It is even used in the medical industry – next time you have an injection and they wipe your skin with a swab... that's IPA.

Please ensure that you use a clean, lint-free white or plain coloured cloth. Certain paper towels and cleaning cloths can scratch the surface of the laminate, and be very careful if using a well-known blue coloured cloth or yellow duster type cloth as you risk transferring the dye from these cloths to your plate when rubbing, particularly if you have white or light coloured plates.

You can use IPA to clean the surface of your plates if they get a bit grubby, and it can also be used to de-grease the back of the plate prior to bonding it to your kit box, giving the glue/bonding agent the best possible adhesion to your materials.

**Like any chemical, please follow the instructions / health warnings / usage information provided with the product. If you are sensitive to chemicals you should wear gloves or get someone else to carry out the cleaning for you.**

***PLEASE NOTE: This information is for general guidance only. You are advised to read and observe all necessary precautions and instructions when using any cleaning product, especially IPA. It is flammable and does have an odour that some people might not be able tolerate, so please use with caution and care, and always in a well ventilated area. You are responsible for your own wellbeing and observation of due care and attention at all times if/when using IPA. We cannot accept any liability or be held responsible for any health issues that may arise from the use of IPA.***