

SIGN CARE & MAINTENANCE

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERIOR & EXTERIOR ARCHITECTURAL SIGNAGE



Thank you for choosing Creative Sign Company as your signage provider. We hope that your new signage will effectively serve your wayfinding and identity needs for years to come. To help you achieve that goal, we have provided easy to follow care and maintenance instructions for your interior or exterior signage. Bear in mind that these are general tips and that signage can be made from a wide variety of substrate materials and have different kinds of finishes. Therefore, when in doubt, please contact Creative Sign Company for specific care and maintenance instructions. Clean signs, as well as being easier to read, convey a positive impression to visitors and your own personnel.

INTERIOR SIGNAGE (No Braille, raised lettering or vinyl applied text to the surface)

- Signs should be dusted/cleaned once each season (every 90 days/three months).
- Use a clean, non-abrasive cotton cloth or paper towel to gently dust the signage.
- If spots or fluids have accumulated, you can use a mild soap (e.g., Dawn or Palmolive) and water mixture to gently wipe down the sign, but you must blot-dry the sign completely. Do not leave moisture on the sign and do not scrub the surface where letters are present. Take care not to damage any paper inserts with excessive water.

INTERIOR SIGNAGE (With Braille or Raised Letters)

- Signs should be dusted/cleaned with a soft, dry cotton cloth (or canned air) once each season (every 90 days/three months).
- For stains or marks, apply a mild soap and water mixture to a clean cotton cloth and gently rub the stain away and blot dry the sign. **DO NOT** leave any moisture or cleaner on the sign. Take care not to damage any paper inserts with excessive water.
- Signs should be kept in climate-controlled environments and should not be subjected to high levels of humidity or accumulated moisture.

EXTERIOR SIGNAGE (Aluminum, Fiberglass, Acrylic)

- Signs should be washed once each season (every 90 days/three months).
- Exterior signs should be washed with clean water and car shampoo as required.
- Car shampoo contains wax to protect and preserve the painted surface.

NEVER USE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- Abrasive cloths, sponges or scrubbing brushes
- Cloths that were used to clean other surfaces (Helps avoid unintended chemical reactions)
- Detergents containing ammonia or solvents
- Methylated spirits, solvents or any acids
- Detergents containing abrasives
- Coarse cloths or cleaning brushes
- Powerful steam or high-pressure cleaning machines

GRAFFITI REMOVAL ON NON-ADA SIGNS

Treatment with Graffiti remover must never take place in direct sun or on hot panels. The panel must always be cleaned with cold water to remove dirt such as sand, soil etc. It is always a good idea to test the purchased Graffiti remover on a "nonvisible" part of the sign to make sure that the surface is not damaged. Graffiti remover is applied using a soft cloth and the entire affected area must be kept wet for approximately 3-4 minutes and must never dry out. If part of the affected area is about to dry out you must apply more Graffiti remover. Finally, wash the panel with cold water. Please try to avoid applying graffiti remover to any applied vinyl text and be careful to avoid the vinyl text during the wash off phase. If graffiti covers the vinyl text, it might be best to have the vinyl copy removed and reapplied.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND FREQUENCY OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Where the sign is located and what the sign is exposed to can alter the maintenance schedule. Within industrial areas, corrosive particles are more prevalent. Lime, oil based deposits, sulphur dioxide, acids and other types of air born pollutants can all adversely affect painted surfaces if signs are not adequately maintained.

- Trees and foliage resins and pollen and bird droppings should be removed promptly to avoid damage.
- In coastal areas, high concentrations of salt, particularly if coupled with high humidity, may adversely affect the wear of painted finishes.
- All painted and plastic components do fade over time, particularly in areas of strong sunlight. Appropriate color selection can minimize this effect as can treating the surface with a wax based cleaning fluid.