



Cleaning Guidelines



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1. Introduction

Welcome to the comprehensive guide on cleaning Cladify panels. In this document, we will provide you with valuable insights and step-by-step instructions to ensure the optimal performance and longevity of your Cladify façade panels.

2. Why Clean Cladding Facades

Stone, porcelain, brick, and aluminum, like glass and metal, are susceptible to elements including rain and air pollution which can cause damage to building exteriors. Both air and rain contain pollutants and minerals that gradually deteriorate these surfaces. Chemicals like sulfates, transported by air and rain, can create acidic mixtures that corrode the facing over time. Dust, dirt, debris, and stains can accumulate on the façade compromising appearance and structural integrity.

Regular cleaning of the Cladify facade helps maintain the aesthetic quality and maximize the structural durability of the panels. By keeping the facade clean, the quality of the panels is maintained, and its longevity is preserved.

3. Cladding Facades Cleaning

Due to the potential impact on the Cladify façade, it is advised to conduct periodic inspections to examine for defects or buildup of dirt, mold, mildew, and/or stain, and to clean the panels at least once per year. Please follow the specific guidelines below for cleaning the respective Cladify façade panels.

3.1 Cleaning Cladify Stone Panels

The most common stain on stone facade is dirt. Dirt can be removed from the panels by scrubbing them with mild, non-abrasive soaps (such as detergent and dish washing liquids) and water applied with a soft cloth or sponge.

1. Rinse the stone panels to remove any debris.
2. If there are stains that cannot be removed with just water, use a mild soap or detergent.
3. Gently scrub the panels using a mild soap and soft cloth or sponge.
4. Clean the panels in small sections, starting from the top and working downwards.
5. For stone facing, add a neutral stone cleaner. One cleaner we recommend is Rust-Oleum Miracle Sealants Tile and Stone Cleaner.

When other stone stains are encountered, the most important step is to identify the stain and its cause. Any treatment used to clean the stone face of the facade should be tested in a small inconspicuous area prior to cleaning the main units.

3.1.2 Stain Treatment

Cladify stone facing is made from natural marbles, granites, and limestones. All-natural stones are porous by nature and easily absorb stains. However, removing stains can be made easy by using a poultice, a material to absorb the stain from the stone. It is important to identify the type of stain so that the proper type of poultice mixture is used.

What is a Poultice?

A poultice is an absorbent powder mixed with a chemical designed to remove a stain from the surface of stone panels. The poultice powder materials can be found at most hardware stores and include white molding plaster, talc, white chalk, and various clays.

Sometimes, in lieu of a powder poultice, an absorbent material such as

paper towels, gauze pads, or cotton balls can be used.

- If using a powder poultice, the poultice should be mixed with the appropriate chemical to form a thick paste.
- If using an absorbent material poultice other than powder, the material should be soaked in the chemical and then rung out, so it is moist but not dripping.

3.1.3 Biological Stains (Fungus, Mildew)

Most biological stains can be easily removed without the use of poultice by using a water/bleach, water/ammonia, or water/hydrogen peroxide combination.

Cleaning Stains Step-by-Step:

1. Dilute 1/2 cup of bleach, hydrogen peroxide, or ammonia into one gallon of water.
2. Clean stained area thoroughly.
3. If the stain remains, then a poultice can be made with a white powder and one of the diluted chemicals listed above.

Efflorescence

Efflorescence is when naturally occurring mineral salts inside real stone are brought to the surface by evaporating water. It appears as a white, powdery substance on the surface of the stone. Normally this is a temporary problem, and the white powder can simply be wiped away from the surface. Once the stone dries out, efflorescence should not be a problem.

3.1.4 Ink Stains (Pens, Markers)

Pen and marker stains are extremely hard to remove from the surface of natural stone.

- For dark stones, acetone can be used to clean the surface of the stone where the stain appears.
- For light stones, a carefully applied mixture of water and bleach. For a less direct approach, a poultice can be used by combining the white powder with the appropriate chemical from above.

3.1.5 Metal Stains (Rust, Copper, Bronze)

Iron or rust stains are the most common metal stains found on stone, and possibly one of the hardest stains to remove. It may take several poultice mixtures to successfully remove a metal stain entirely.

- For rust, a poultice mixed with white powder and any rust remover chemical should be applied to the stain.
- For copper, a poultice mixed with white powder and diluted ammonia should be used. In both cases it may take several tries before you notice any results.

3.1.6 Oil Stains (Grease, Cooking Oil, Tar, Cosmetics)

Before trying a poultice mixture, try cleaning the surface with diluted ammonia or mineral spirits. If this does not remove the stain, you can try to clean the surface with acetone (for dark stones) or diluted bleach (for light stones). If both methods do not yield results, then a poultice made of white powder mixed with mineral spirits can be used.

3.1.7 Organic Stains (Coffee, Food, Tobacco)

Organic stains can be removed by using a powder poultice mixed with either:

- Acetone for darker stones
- Diluted hydrogen peroxide for lighter stones

Applying the Poultice Step-by-Step:

1. Spread the poultice over the stained area using a wooden or plastic spatula (the poultice should be 1/4" to 1/2" thick).
2. The poultice should be covered and sealed with plastic for 24 to 48 hours or until the poultice is dry (to aid in the drying process, holes can be poked in the plastic).

3. Once the poultice is dry, it should be removed with the wooden or plastic spatula, and then the area rinsed thoroughly.
4. For stubborn stains, repeat this process several times as necessary.

3.1.8 Additional Notes

- Any "whitening" chemicals used such as bleach, ammonia, or hydrogen peroxide should be diluted with water.
- Re-polishing may be necessary on some stone.

WARNING:

- Do not use acids or brick cleaners. Avoid abrasive cleaners, vinegar, or lemon-based cleaners as their acidity can potentially damage the finish of the stone.
- Power washing and sandblasting are not recommended for cleaning Cladify stone panels. Metal fiber brushes should not be used for scrubbing stone as they may scar the surface, and small bits of metal residue from the brush left on the stone may later rust or corrode and cause staining.
- When selecting manufactured cleaners for stone, look for Green Seal of Approval or otherwise verify low environmental impact with the manufacturer.

3.2 Cleaning Cladify Porcelain Panels

The most common stain on porcelain facade is dirt. Dirt can be removed from the facing by scrubbing them with mild, non-abrasive soaps (such as detergent and dish washing liquids) and water applied with a soft cloth or sponge.

3.2.1 Cleaning Porcelain Panels Step-By-Step

1. Rinse the porcelain panels to remove any debris.
2. If there are stains that cannot be removed with just water, use a mild soap or detergent.
3. Gently scrub the panels using a mild soap and soft cloth or sponge.
4. Clean the panels in small sections, starting from the top and working downwards.
5. For porcelain facing, add a neutral cleaner. One cleaner we recommend is Rust-Oleum Miracle Sealants Tile and Stone Cleaner.

When other stains are encountered, the most important step is to identify the stain and its cause. Any treatment used to clean the porcelain panels should be tested in a small inconspicuous area prior to cleaning the main units.

3.2.2 Stain Treatment

Removing stains can be made easy by using a poultice, a material to absorb the stain from brick. It is important to identify the type of stain so that the proper type of poultice mixture is used.

What is a Poultice?

A poultice is an absorbent powder mixed with a chemical designed to remove a stain from a stone surface and can also be used on porcelain surface. The poultice powder materials can be found at most hardware stores and include white molding plaster, talc, white chalk, and various clays.

Sometimes, in lieu of a powder poultice, an absorbent material such as paper towels, gauze pads, or cotton balls can be used.

- If using a powder poultice, the poultice should be mixed with the appropriate chemical to form a thick paste.
- If using an absorbent material poultice other than powder, the material should be soaked in the chemical and then rung out,

so it is moist but not dripping.

3.2.3 Biological Stains (Fungus, Mildew)

Most biological stains can be easily removed without the use of poultice by using a water/bleach, water/ammonia, or water/hydrogen peroxide combination.

Cleaning Stains Step-by-Step:

1. Dilute 1/2 cup of bleach, hydrogen peroxide, or ammonia into one gallon of water.
2. Clean stained area thoroughly.
3. If the stain remains, then a poultice can be made with a white powder and one of the diluted chemicals listed above.

3.2.4 Ink Stains (Pens, Markers)

Pen and marker stains can be removed from porcelain surface by using the following:

- For dark porcelain, acetone can be used to clean the surface of the porcelain where the stain appears.
- For light porcelain, a carefully applied mixture of water and bleach. For a less direct approach, a poultice can be used by combining the white powder with the appropriate chemical from above.

3.2.5 Metal Stains (Rust, Copper, Bronze)

Iron or rust stains are the most common metal stains found on porcelain. It may take several poultice mixtures to successfully remove a metal stain entirely.

- For rust, a poultice mixed with white powder and any rust remover chemical should be applied to the stain.
- For copper, a poultice mixed with white powder and diluted ammonia should be used. In both cases it may take several tries before you notice any results.

3.2.6 Oil Stains (Grease, Cooking Oil, Tar, Cosmetics)

Before trying a poultice mixture, try cleaning the surface with diluted ammonia or mineral spirits. If this does not remove the stain, you can try to clean the surface with acetone (for dark stones) or diluted bleach (for light stones). If both methods do not yield results, then a poultice made of white powder mixed with mineral spirits can be used.

3.2.7 Organic Stains (Coffee, Food, Tobacco)

Organic stains can be removed by using a powder poultice mixed with either:

- Acetone for darker porcelain
- Diluted hydrogen peroxide for lighter porcelain

Applying the Poultice Step-by-Step:

1. Spread the poultice over the stained area using a wooden or plastic spatula (the poultice should be 1/4" to 1/2" thick).
2. The poultice should be covered and sealed with plastic for 24 to 48 hours or until the poultice is dry (to aid in the drying process, holes can be poked in the plastic).
3. Once the poultice is dry, it should be removed with the wooden or plastic spatula, and then the area rinsed thoroughly.
4. For stubborn stains, repeat this process several times as necessary.

3.2.8 Additional Notes

- Any "whitening" chemicals used such as bleach, ammonia, or hydrogen peroxide should be diluted with water.
- Re-polishing may be necessary on some porcelain.

WARNING:

- Avoid using solvents, aggressive alkaline or acid-based cleaners, and detergents with high phosphate content which could damage the finish.
- Power washing and sandblasting are not recommended for cleaning porcelain panels. Metal fiber brushes should not be used for scrubbing as they may scar the surface, and small bits of metal residue from the brush left on the porcelain may later rust or corrode and cause staining.
- When selecting manufactured cleaners for porcelain, look for Green Seal of Approval or otherwise verify low environmental impact with the manufacturer.

3.3 Cleaning Cladify Brick Panels

The most common stain on brick facade is dirt. Dirt can be removed from the facing by scrubbing them with mild, non-abrasive soaps (such as detergent and dish washing liquids) and water applied with a soft cloth or sponge.

3.3.1 Cleaning Cladify Brick Panels

1. Rinse the brick panels to remove any debris.
2. If there are stains that cannot be removed with just water, use a mild soap or detergent.
3. Gently scrub the panels using a mild soap and soft cloth or sponge.
4. Clean the panels in small sections, starting from the top and working downwards.

When other stains are encountered, the most important step is to identify the stain and its cause. Any treatment used to clean the brick panels should be tested in a small inconspicuous area prior to cleaning the main units.

3.3.2 Stain Treatment

Removing stains can be made easy by using a poultice, a material to absorb the stain from brick. It is important to identify the type of stain so that the proper type of poultice mixture is used.

What is a Poultice?

A poultice is an absorbent powder mixed with a chemical designed to remove a stain from a stone surface and can also be used on brick surface. The poultice powder materials can be found at most hardware stores and include white molding plaster, talc, white chalk, and various clays.

Sometimes, in lieu of a powder poultice, an absorbent material such as paper towels, gauze pads, or cotton balls can be used.

- If using a powder poultice, the poultice should be mixed with the appropriate chemical to form a thick paste.
- If using an absorbent material poultice other than powder, the material should be soaked in the chemical and then rung out, so it is moist but not dripping.

3.3.3 Biological Stains (Fungus, Mildew)

Most biological stains can be easily removed without the use of poultice by using a water/bleach, water/ammonia, or water/hydrogen peroxide combination.

Cleaning Stains Step-by-Step:

1. Dilute 1/2 cup of bleach, hydrogen peroxide, or ammonia into one gallon of water.
2. Clean stained area thoroughly.
3. If the stain remains, then a poultice can be made with a white powder and one of the diluted chemicals listed above.

3.3.4 Ink Stains (Pens, Markers)

Pen and marker stains can be removed from brick surface by using the

following:

- For dark brick, acetone can be used to clean the surface of the brick where the stain appears.
- For light brick, a carefully applied mixture of water and bleach. For a less direct approach, a poultice can be used by combining the white powder with the appropriate chemical from above.

3.3.5 Metal Stains (Rust, Copper, Bronze)

Iron or rust stains are the most common metal stains found on bricks. It may take several poultice mixtures to successfully remove a metal stain entirely.

- For rust, a poultice mixed with white powder and any rust remover chemical should be applied to the stain.
- For copper, a poultice mixed with white powder and diluted ammonia should be used. In both cases it may take several tries before you notice any results.

3.3.6 Oil Stains (Grease, Cooking Oil, Tar, Cosmetics)

Before trying a poultice mixture, try cleaning the surface with diluted ammonia or mineral spirits. If this does not remove the stain, you can try to clean the surface with acetone (for dark stones) or diluted bleach (for light stones). If both methods do not yield results, then a poultice made of white powder mixed with mineral spirits can be used.

3.3.7 Organic Stains (Coffee, Food, Tobacco)

Organic stains can be removed by using a powder poultice mixed with either:

- Acetone for darker brick
- Diluted hydrogen peroxide for lighter brick

Applying the Poultice Step-by-Step:

1. Spread the poultice over the stained area using a wooden or plastic spatula (the poultice should be 1/4" to 1/2" thick).
2. The poultice should be covered and sealed with plastic for 24 to 48 hours or until the poultice is dry (to aid in the drying process, holes can be poked in the plastic).
3. Once the poultice is dry, it should be removed with the wooden or plastic spatula, and then the area rinsed thoroughly.
4. For stubborn stains, repeat this process several times as necessary.

3.3.8 Additional Notes

- Any "whitening" chemicals used such as bleach, ammonia, or hydrogen peroxide should be diluted with water.
- Re-polishing may be necessary on some stone.

WARNING:

- Avoid using solvents, aggressive alkaline or acid-based cleaners, and detergents with high phosphate content which could damage the finish.
- Power washing and sandblasting are not recommended for cleaning brick panels. Metal fiber brushes should not be used for scrubbing as they may scar the surface, and small bits of metal residue from the brush left on the porcelain may later rust or corrode and cause staining.
- When selecting manufactured cleaners for brick, look for Green Seal of Approval or otherwise verify low environmental impact with the manufacturer.

3.4 Cleaning Cladify Aluminum Facade Panels

The painted surfaces of the Cladify aluminum panels should be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent the build up of corrosive deposits. The required frequency and method of this cleaning is dependent on the local

environment and conditions. Rinsing the aluminum panels with fresh water on a frequent basis can reduce the residue build up on the surface and thereby reduce the need for more intensive cleaning. It is suggested to rinse the aluminum panels' surfaces at the same time the windows are cleaned.

3.4.1 Cleaning Cladify Aluminum Facade Panels

1. Rinse the aluminum panels to remove any surface deposits.
2. If rinsing is not successful in removing surface deposits, washing with a mild detergent, using a pressure washer at a low pressure setting and or a lamb's wool mitt or soft cloth, followed immediately by a fresh water rinse, is recommended.
3. If there are stains that cannot be removed with fresh water, use a mild soap.
4. Clean the panels in small sections, starting from the top and working downwards.
5. For aluminum facing, we recommend Krud Kutter gutter and exterior metal cleaner.

WARNING:

- Avoid using solvents, aggressive alkaline or acid-based cleaners, and detergents with high phosphate content which could damage the finish. Never mix different cleaners together.
- Metal fiber brushes or wire brushes should not be used for scrubbing as they may scar the surface, and small bits of metal residue from the brush left on the panel may later rust or corrode and cause staining.
- Avoid cleaning the surfaces when they are very hot or very cold. It is important that the aluminum panels be cleaned when the surfaces are in the shade to prevent quick drying and streaking. Clean small areas at a time to prevent the drying of the detergent solution on the wall prior to rinsing.

When the residue on the building surface is organic in nature the mild detergent may not be aggressive enough to thoroughly clean the panels. For these situations the following methods are recommended:

3.4.2 For light organic residue and/or hydrocarbon build up:

Use Miraclean All-Purpose Cleaner

Hand Wipe: Full Strength to 1:1

Stick Goods Cleaning (Squeegees, etc.): 2:1 to 5:1

Pressure Washing: 10:1 to 20:1

3.4.3 For heavier residue and/or hydrocarbon build up:

Use Mirachem 500 Cleaner/Degreaser Concentrate

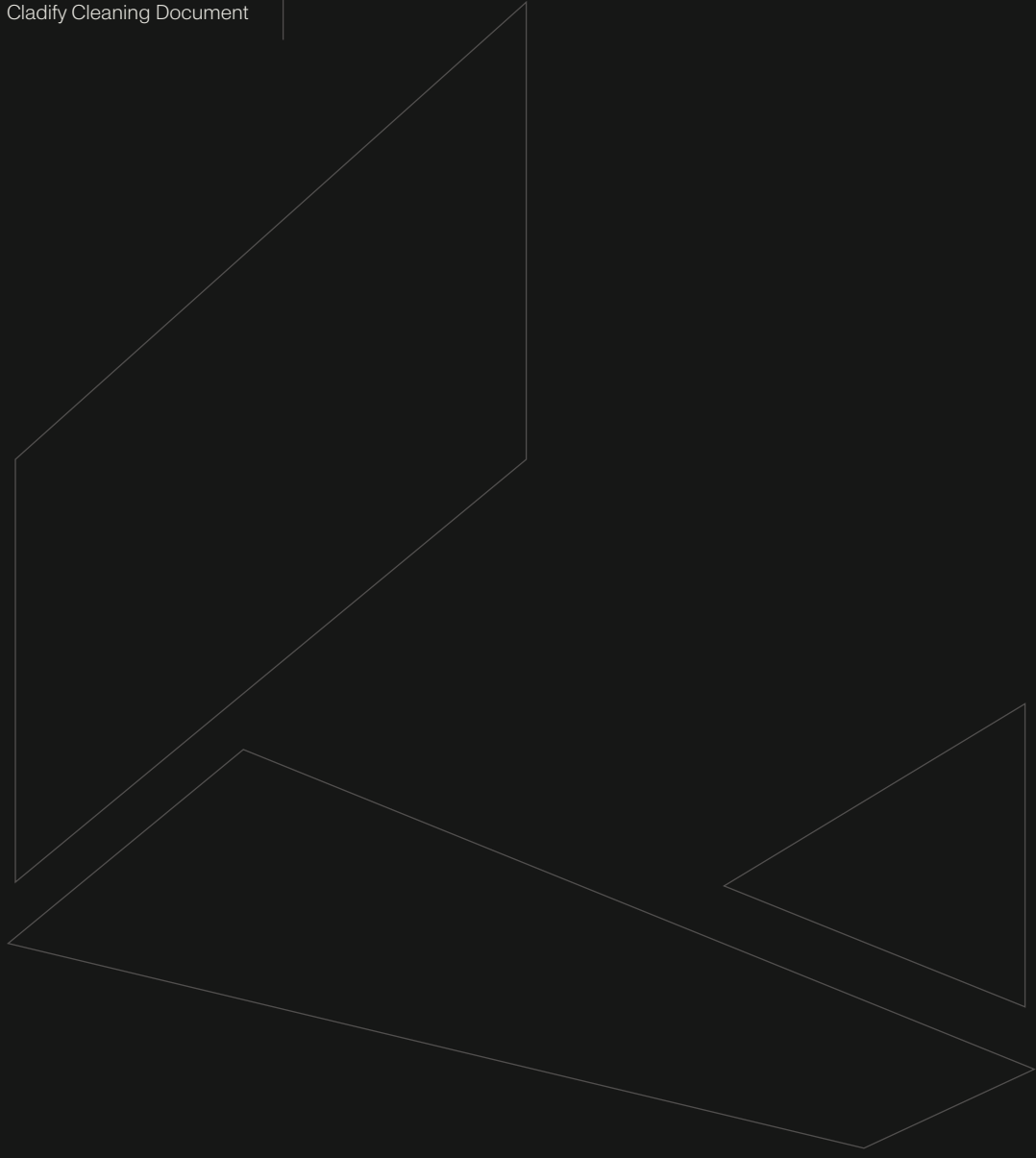
Hand Wipe: Full Strength to 3:1

Stick Goods Cleaning (Squeegees, etc.): 2:1 to 5:1

Pressure Washing 10:1 to 20:1

3.4.4 Additional Notes

Dilutions are indicated as a ratio of parts of water to parts of cleaning product. For example, an indicated dilution of 5:1 would use 5 parts of water for one part of cleaner. As with the mild detergent method, work on small areas at a time to ensure proper rinsing of the surface prior to drying. This will prevent streaking on the cleaned facing. Always test the cleaning method and products on a small inconspicuous area of the building prior to cleaning the larger building surfaces.



- **Toll Free**

+1 (855) 254 0214

- **Learn More**

cladify.com

info@cladify.com

- **Headquarters**

41 Racine Rd, Toronto, ON M9W2Z4, Canada

+1 (416) 874 7473

- **USA Office**

Chrysler Building, 405 Lexington Avenue Floor 26, New York, USA, 10174

+1 (646) 583 4486

