Sports Surfaces: Cleaning and Care Instructions

Advanced Polymer Technology's Laykold surfaces normally require only minimal maintenance. However, the amount of maintenance required will depend largely on the local atmospheric environment and court usage. Environments subject to heavy airborne pollution, such as dust, leaves, and traffic fumes, are classified as high maintenance areas. Low maintenance areas enjoy low levels of pollution and dust, such as indoor, and are classified accordingly.

1. Low Maintenance Environment

a) Outdoor

Courts should be swept with broom, air blower, or water broom approximately once per week depending on severity of surface contamination. Foreign debris should be hosed off with clean water, where practical.

b) Indoor

Indoor surfaces should be cleaned once every 2 to 4 weeks depending on court usage with a Tennant T5 walk behind or comparable cleaning machine to remove any dust, dirt, etc. Heavy contamination or staining should be removed using a wet scrubber/vacuum machine comparable to a Tennant T5 walk behind with soft brush attachment as in 2(b). On textured surfaces, foreign debris should be swept and hosed off regularly, if hosing is possible.

2. High Maintenance Environment

a) Heavy airborne pollution, such as dust, leaves, and vehicle fumes, have a tendency to settle rapidly unto the court surface.

1. In a heavy maintenance environment, APT recommends that foreign debris be hosed off at least once a week to minimize buildup of pollutants. Should the surface become generally dirty or stained, surface can be cleaned with a light duty wet scrubber/vacuum machine with a soft brush attachment. A non-residual organic cleaner should also be utilized to aid in the cleaning of the surface. The percentage of cleaner to the percentage of water will largely depend on the degree of surface contamination, and should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications for the particular surface type and stain.

   After light scrubbing, hose off with fresh water to remove any residual cleaning agent in outdoor environment, or wet scrub/vacuum with clean fresh water in indoor environment.

   Note: Contact your local authority prior to commencement of cleaning to conform to the environment requirements in your area.

Sports Surfaces: Cleaning and Care Instructions

3. Mold Growth and Tree/Plant Contamination

It is recommended that overhanging trees/plants be controlled to prevent excessive contamination of the surface, some trees/plants in particular will cause staining and unsightly contamination.

Mold may buildup on areas of the surface where plant/leaf contamination occurs or where pooling water occurs after rain. These areas should be cleaned on a regular basis using the following methods:

a) Hose off foreign debris with the aid of a stiff bristle broom.
b) Saturate the surface with clean water
c) Use a dilute solution of sodium hypochlorite (liquid pool chlorine); dilution rate is dependent on the severity of mold growth.
d) Broom solution over the mold area and soak for 10-15 minutes. Do not allow to dry.
e) Hose off surface thoroughly with clean water to remove all residual solution. Keep away from plants, animals, and children and wear protective clothing. Solution is strong bleach.
f) More heavily contaminated surfaces may require additional treatment or in severe cases, high-pressure water blasting and sodium hypochlorite treatment. Other algaecides are commercially available.

Test First… Testing of all cleaning methods and their effects on the **Laykold** surface is recommended before any general use.

Note: Do not use powdered Calcium Hypochlorite solution as this will leave a white residue on the surface after drying.

Note: Contact your local authority prior to commencement of cleaning to conform to the environment requirements in your area.

4. Food and Drink Contamination

Immediate washing of the surface is recommended. If staining has occurred, then the same cleaning methods suggested for dirt or mold/plant/tree/bird/wildlife contamination would be recommended.

Solvent based products, i.e. solvent thinners and similar products are not to be used on **Laykold** surfaces.

Scouring type products, i.e. Ajax powder or similar are not recommended for use on **Laykold** surfaces.

5. Specific Contaminations

a) Fruit Bat 'Droppings' and worms

'Droppings' and worms will cause degradation of the Laykold surface. They should be immediately removed by mechanically scraping them off or by high pressure washing.

In serve cases, they will cause blistering and peeling, not only of the surface, but also the asphalt underneath to a depth of 3-6 mm. In these cases, the surface should be patched with the recommended **Laykold** surface materials. This will require specific instructions to be followed and APT would recommend that the services of a **Laykold Approved Applicator** be used for this work.

b) Bird/Wildlife Contamination

This can usually be removed by a non-residual organic cleaner with a stiff bristle brush/broom and hose off with plenty of clean water.

c) Shoe 'Sole' Staining and Rub Marks

APT recommends only white soled or non-staining/marking shoe types be used when playing on the surface.

Some 'black' rub marks can get onto the surface by certain types of soles on footwear. These marks can usually be removed with a non-residual organic cleaner and stiff bristle brush. Some rubber types are difficult to remove when they are fresh, weathering will usually allow these marks to be removed. Shoe sole marking will be more noticeable and prevalent with new surfaces.

d) Chewing Gum

It is very difficult to remove gum from court surfaces. Mechanical scraping of the gum is all that can be recommended.

e) Grease and Oil Stains

Non-residual organic cleaner is recommended. It may require several applications to remove the grease/oil contamination. Thoroughly hose off the surface with clean water after the application of the detergent solution.

Note: Contact your local authority prior to commencement of cleaning to conform to the environment requirements in your area.

Sports Surfaces: Cleaning and Care Instructions

6. Racquet Damage

The **Laykold** surfaces are highly resistant to damage from normal racquet contact. However, metal racquets heavily impacting the surface at sharp angles can cause slight cuts in the surface. Such damage is usually confined to the top layers and can be readily repaired. Refer to a **Laykold Approved Distributor** for further information.

7. Repairs

Deep cuts into the base layer of cushioned **Laykold** surfaces may be caused by sharp implements, i.e. metal chair legs, heavy steel wheeled trolleys, stiletto heels, vandalism, etc. Chairs and umpire stands should have wooden bases on the legs to minimize damage to the surface. Contact your **Laykold Approved Distributor** immediately if any damage occurs to prevent further damage from the ingress of water.

8. Drying the Court Surface

Laykold surfaces can quickly be put back into service after a disruption by rain. Simply remove any excess water with a wide sponge roller or squeegee and play can recommence immediately. The surface is slip resistant when damp.

9. General Surface Care

Wear only white or non-marking flat soled tennis shoes. Wipe shoes before entering court to prevent stones, twigs, or other sharp objects from being ground into the surface.