

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE ROUTINE FOR WATCHMAKERS' BENCHES IN SCHOOLS

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Standardised guide to the daily, weekly and semester-based maintenance of watchmakers' benches, work surfaces and utility components.

A clean workstation is essential in watch servicing to ensure dust-free assembly processes and flawless micro-assembly. Following a clear cleaning routine protects sensitive tools from contamination, promotes quality awareness among students and helps preserve the value of the workstation infrastructure.

Duration: Approx. 5 minutes daily at the end of the shift
(weekly deep cleaning approx. 15 minutes)

Practical tip: Print out these recommendations, laminate them and attach them directly to the watchmaker's bench. This gives students a useful daily reminder right at their workstation.

Daily end-of-shift routine (approx. 5 minutes)

- 1. Clear the work surface and secure small components:**
Store all components, movement parts and personal tools securely in the designated compartmentalised drawer inserts.
- 2. Brush down the surfaces:** Thoroughly remove shavings, metal particles and dust from the worktop using a soft anti-static goat-hair brush or microfibre cloth.
- 3. Material-specific surface care:**
 - **HPL laminate and corian:** Wipe with a lightly dampened microfibre cloth and a mild neutral cleaning solution (diluted isopropyl alcohol can also be used on HPL). Then wipe dry.
 - **Solid wood worktops (beech/oak):** Wipe only with a slightly damp cloth to avoid standing moisture and swelling of the wood.
- 4. Clean controls and armrests:** Clean high-touch areas such as the leather or synthetic leather padding on the 3D/5D armrests and the buttons for electric height adjustment daily to remove skin oils.
- 5. Utility standby:** Close the compressed air and vacuum connections on the utility rail. Switch off the system lighting and workstation power.

Emergency notice in case of chemical contact

If aggressive cleaning agents, acids or liquids with a high solvent content come into contact with the worktop or rails, neutralise them immediately, absorb them with a dry cloth and then wipe the surface with a cloth lightly dampened with clean water.

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Weekly deep cleaning (approx. 15 minutes)

1. **Thorough degreasing:** Clean the worktop to remove stubborn oil and grease marks. Do not use abrasive cleaners or aggressive solvents on the leather armrests.
2. **Drawer inspection and completeness:** Check the drawer inserts to ensure the tool set is complete, vacuum the small-component compartments and store the tools in an organised manner.
3. **Clean lighting and optical components:** Carefully clean the protective covers of the LED task lights and the microscope lenses using a specialist optical cleaning cloth.
4. **Utility rail and service channels:** Check the flush-integrated utility rail, cable grommets and guides for dust accumulation and brush them clean with a dry brush.
5. **Armrest disinfection:** Treat the padded surfaces of the armrests with a mild, alcohol-free surface disinfectant.

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Semesterly maintenance

1. **Solid wood care (if applicable):** Check wooden work surfaces for signs of dryness or wear, clean lightly if necessary, apply a thin coat of specialist worktop oil and, after allowing it to penetrate, polish dry.
2. **Safety and collision check:** Run the height adjustment through its full adjustment range. Test the collision protection sensors and emergency stops to ensure they are functioning correctly.
3. **Wear inspection:** Check the armrests, ball joints, drawer runners and cable channels for secure mechanical fit. Tighten screws if necessary.
4. **Frame cleaning:** Wipe aluminium and steel profile frames (e.g. MODULAR II/III or UNIQUE MASTER) with a damp cloth and check that they are completely dry afterwards.

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