

CARTRIDGE CLEANING METHODS

By Mike Josiah and the Technical Staff at UniNet

Component	Typical Use In	Recommended Method	Not Recommended
OPC Drum (OEM/Aftermarket)	ALL	Lint free cloth with 99% pure isopropyl alcohol.	Any other type of alcohol or liquid cleaner, charge enhancing creams, yellow toner cloths.
Magnetic Roller (Metal)	HP/Canon Engines	Lint free synthetic cloth with dedicated magnetic roller cleaner.	99% isopropyl alcohol, yellow toner cloths.
Developer Roller (Urethane)	Lexmark, IBM, Brother, Samsung Cartridges	Lint free synthetic cloth with dedicated magnetic roller cleaner.	99% isopropyl alcohol, charge enhancing creams, yellow toner cloths.
OEM PCR	ALL	UniNet PCR cleaner, distilled water.	99% Isopropyl alcohol, charge enhancing creams, yellow toner cloths.
UniNet/Summit PCR	ALL	Lint free cloth with 99% pure isopropyl alcohol.	Nu Finish car polish, charge enhancing creams, yellow toner cloths.
Corona Wires	ALL	Scotch Brite cleaning pad with 99% isopropyl alcohol/ultrasonic bath.	Water/creams, yellow toner cloths.
Wiper/Doctor Blades	HP/Canon Engines	Lint free synthetic cloth.	Any chemicals, yellow toner cloths.
Doctor Blades (Metal)	Lexmark, IBM, Brother, Samsung Cartridges	Scotch Brite cleaning pad with 99% isopropyl alcohol. Acetone for select cartridges only. See individual instructions.	Any chemicals other than those mentioned, yellow toner cloths. Any type petroleum cleaner. Check individual instructions for acetone use.
Felt Seals	ALL	Compressed air/vacuum.	Any chemicals.
Magnetic Seals	HP/Canon Engines	Compressed air/vacuum.	Any chemicals, yellow toner cloths.
Plastic Parts	ALL	Compressed air/vacuum, yellow toner cloths on outside parts only.	Any chemicals, yellow toner cloths on internal parts.
Electrical Contacts	ALL	Lint free cotton swab with 99% isopropyl alcohol. After cleaning, use small amount conductive grease on the contact.	Yellow toner cloths.

CARTRIDGE CLEANING SOLVENTS

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	OPC	Metal Magnetic Roller	Urethane Dev Roller	OEM	UniNet/Summit PCR	Wiper Blade	Urethane Doctor Blade	Metal Doctor Blade	Corona Wire	External Plastic Parts	Internal Plastic Parts
99% ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
ACETONE	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO
UNINET PCR CLEANER	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
MAGNETIC ROLLER CLEANER	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
DEVELOPER ROLLER CLEANER	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
RUBBER ROLLER CLEANER	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
COMPRESSED AIR	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
DISTILLED WATER	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
PETROLEUM SOLVENTS	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
FEDRON	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
YELLOW TONER CLOTHS	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
LIQUID SOAP	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO

REASONS FOR NOT USING CERTAIN CLEANING PRODUCTS

YELLOW TONER CLOTHS	Sold under a variety of names, these cloths are impregnated with a clear oil. This oil, if used on any internal cartridge parts, will cause the toner to stick to those parts.
CHARGE ENHANCING CREAMS	Aftermarket drums, toners, and parts are designed to work together within certain parameters to form a balanced system. Using a charge enhancing cream will destroy this balance, and will have unknown effects.
PETROLEUM BASED CLEANERS	Petroleum based cleaners such as kerosene, paint thinner, etc can react with toner, and change the charge characteristics. Depending on the cartridge, this can cause backgrounding, print voids, drum damage, magnetic/developer roller damage or PCR damage.
99% ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL	99% Isopropyl alcohol unless specified should never be used on rubber rollers. Rubber rollers when cleaned with alcohol will dry out and crack.
FEDRON/CITRUS BASED RUBBER ROLLER CLEANERS	These cleaners should never be used on any internal cartridge rubber type rollers. They will leave a residue that will cause toner to stick to the parts cleaned. They should only be used to clean paper path rollers in the machine itself.