

# Challenger Center Simulator Care Guide

Challenger Center has created this simulator care guide to provide you with an overview of the proper care for your Learning Center simulator. By following these simple instructions, you will easily be able to keep your Learning Center looking good year after year.

Regardless upon where your site is located and the amount of use it endures, most simulators should be given **an overall cleaning every three to six months**. This includes opening the backs of the Mission Control cabinets and vacuuming out dust and debris as well as cleaning and polishing the external surfaces throughout the simulator. The entire process should take three people approximately four hours (not including the time needed to polish out any scratches).

## Cleaning Inside the Computer Cabinets

1. Remove the backs of all the cabinets and set them carefully along an outside wall.
2. Vacuum the insides, starting at the front of the cabinets and working towards the back.

**Note:** When vacuuming the inside of the Mission Control or Space Station cabinets, remember to turn off the computers and monitors first. Be very careful of the wiring so as not to snag, pull or knock wires loose.

## Cleaning the Consoles

1. Use a soft cotton cloth and Formula 409 to clean the countertops, sides, backboards, and backs (Mission Control) of the consoles.

**Note:** Any tough stains on the cabinets can be removed using Soft Scrub with Bleach, followed by Formula 409.

## Cleaning the Ribbed Rubber on the Consoles (in some simulators)

1. Use a stiff paintbrush to sweep out the dust from between the rubber ribbing on each of the consoles.
2. Spray the ribbed rubber with Armor-All or Son-of-a-Gun and wipe with a cotton cloth.

**Note:** Armor-All helps to keep the rubber surfaces supple and replaces the dried out lubricants, keeping the rubber from rotting or flaking.

## Cleaning the Plexiglas

1. Use a soft cotton cloth and Brillianize to clean the Plexiglas that is part of the consoles.
2. To get scratches out of Plexiglas, use Novus Plastic polish #2 and #3 (or 3M Polish #30017 and #30010). Follow the instructions on the bottle and then finish with Brillianize.

**Note:** When you polish the Plexiglas with Brillianize it leaves an anti-static surface that repels dust.

**Note:** Do not use any cleaner with ammonia, as it will permanently fog the Plexiglas, resulting in having to replace that panel.

**Note:** Do not use paper towels or synthetic cloth, as they will scratch the Plexiglas.





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## Cleaning Camera Lenses

1. Use a liquid lens cleaner and lens tissues.

## Cleaning the Carpet

1. Vacuum well or have a professional cleaner come in to clean the carpets.

## Cleaning Inside the Isolation 1, 2, and 3 Areas and Remote Glovebox

1. Follow the directions on the previous page for cleaning consoles and Plexiglas.

## Repairing Ribbed Rubber (in some simulators)

If your rubber is pulling away from the surface, then the contact cement adhesive needs to be replaced.

1. Pull back the rubber.
2. Clean the back of the rubber surface and the cabinet top.
3. Coat both areas with new contact cement.
4. Let adhesive dry for five minutes before attaching the rubber back to the counter top.
5. Start where the ribbed rubber is already attached and push toward the edge making sure to remove any air pockets.
6. Use a staple gun to help secure the ribbed rubber on the underside of the counter top.
7. Allow the simulator to air out 24-48 hours, depending on the amount of repairs that were made.

**Note:** Use throwaway latex gloves to keep the cement off of your hands and wipe any excess glue off immediately after pressing pieces together.

**Note:** Stainless steel trim can be purchased from Network Support or a local outlet to hold down the rubber along the top edge if you wish.

## Cleaning LS3 Water Containers and Hoses

1. Containers: Clean the water containers by flushing them with a mild solution of water and bleach, followed by distilled water.
2. Hoses: (a) Remove hose and clamp from back of LS3; (b) Use towels to protect area behind LS3; (c) Insert the spray tube of a can of compressed air in the end of the tap; (d) Spray the compressed air into the tap.

If you cannot find Brillianize Plexiglas cleaner, 3M Polish #30017/#30010 or Novus Polish #2 and #3 in your area, please contact Network Support at (877) 443-5701 for current prices and availability.

Approximate costs:

Brillianize Plexiglas Cleaner, 1 gallon	\$25.00
Novus Polish #2 & #3, 8 oz.	\$9.00

