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# AMERICAN METER

## Instructions Cleaning Plastic Meter Parts and Components

[www.americanmeter.com](http://www.americanmeter.com)

- A.** All plastics may be safely cleaned with soap and water, or a mixture of either non-alkaline liquid or powder detergent and water. For greasy soiled parts, the water temperature may be increased up to 170° F and a mechanical wiping or agitation applied.

Following cleaning, all parts should be rinsed thoroughly with clear water and be allowed to drain free or be wiped dry.

- B.** Some plastics are sufficiently chemical resistant to tolerate a solvent immersion for cleaning. However, this necessitates extreme caution. Both the solvent and the plastic must be specifically identified for compatibility, and the solvent contact made at **ambient temperature with a complete drying** of the part achieved within one-half hour of the initial contact.

Solvents such as alcohol, naphtha, toluene, trichorethlene and non-leaded gasoline may be used with the temperature and time caution mentioned above on the following plastics (See Warning Note).

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| * Acetal (Delrin & Celcon) | Polyethylene       |
| * Polyester (Ceelex)       | Polypropylene      |
| * Nylon                    | Epoxy              |
| * Fluorocarbon (Teflon)    | Phenolic (Durafil) |

**\*Note:**

Acidic or alkali ingredients or material must not be allowed to come into contact with acetal, polyester or nylon parts. These plastics are susceptible to attack and deterioration from either acid or alkali.

- C.** Under no circumstances should any solvent be used or come in contact with the following plastics. Damage will occur despite the fact that such damage is not immediately evident. These plastics can be structurally weakened or destroyed if in contact with solvents.

### Warning

***When using a flammable solvent to clean components, the area shall have no open flames for heating or lighting and such areas shall be adequately ventilated.***

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Acrylics (Plexiglas, Lucite)  | Polystyrene                    |
| Polycarbonate (Lexan, Merlon) | Phenylene Oxide<br>(Noryl PPO) |
| ABS                           | Vinyl (PVC)                    |

As a convenience in using this guide in the cleaning of plastic parts, listed below are the more common plastic items of the American Meter, Domestic Meter product line.

Meter Part	Type Plastic
Index Box	Polycarbonate
Odometer Style Index	Phenylene Oxide Backplate
Speedreader Generator Housing	ABS
Speedreader Remote-Counter Housing	ABS
Index Bracket	Polycarbonate
Register Assembly, RPM	Polystyrene
Circle-type Index	Acetal gears
Valve Seat and Covers	Phenolic
Tangent Sleeve	Acetal/Nylon
Short Flag Arm	Acetal
Axle Box	Nylon
Axle and Wheel Assembly	Acetal/Nylon
Flag Rod Bearing	Acetal
Speedreader Generator-Ratchet & Gear Assembly	Acetal
Index Gears	Acetal
Gear Train, GT	Polyester

Where the specific identity of a plastic part is in doubt, cleaning with soap and water only is strongly recommended.

Due to continuous development the information in this document is subject to change.

**Caution:**

**Handling and Disposal**

*"As a knowledgeable user of American Meter's products, we are sure that you are aware that parts in the Company's meters and regulators contain or are coated with heavy metals such as cadmium, zinc, lead and chromium. Obviously, therefore, repair or refurbishment of this equipment should take into account the presence of these materials and should comply with all state and federal requirements concerning worker protection, proper disposal and safety, including protection against exposure to dust and fumes."*



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