



CLEANING AND CARE GUIDE

Thank you for choosing **MalRay** for your radiation protection needs. X-ray aprons serve a very specific purpose, to protect and shield you from the potentially harmful effects of ionizing radiation. Shielding, one of the three concepts of basic radiation safety, should always be used when the use of time and distance principles are not possible.

Protective x-ray aprons constructed of lead or a non-lead equivalent are designed to protect the radiosensitive areas of the body when it is necessary for the healthcare worker to be near the source of radiation. Typically, x-ray aprons will offer protection from 0.25mm to 0.5 mm lead equivalency. In some instances, wrap-around x-ray aprons are required when medical personnel will have their backs exposed to the radiation source.

Lead rubber is a very flexible and durable lead shielding products however, it still requires proper care in order to maximize its use and produce best result in term of radiation safety.

The following are recommended actions for the care of X-ray protective apron:

1. Regular Inspect and check apron for defects, cracks, creases, and perforations

X-ray aprons should be evaluated every 12 months to determine if replacement is needed, depending on the amount of usage and general wear and tear. It is advisable to perform more frequent inspection once it have been used for more than 5 years. To ensure proper inspection procedure, it is recommended to send the lead apron to a qualified lab to perform annual inspection and safety validation.

2. Clean Regularly

X-ray Aprons should be cleaned daily or weekly (depend on usage) and deodorized by scrubbing with a soft bristle brush, using cold water and a mild detergent. Completely remove cleaning residue by thoroughly rinsing with clean, cold water.

- Never use products that contain bleach.
- Do not soak or submerge x-ray apron in water.
- Do not machine launder, autoclave or dry-clean.
- Once cleaning is complete, if possible, hang the apron on the designated apron wall rack to air dry.

The user may contact us for further throughout cleaning services.

3. Properly Store X-Ray Aprons

The x-ray apron manufacturer's recommendation regarding the proper handling and storage of the apron must be strictly observed. When not in use, x-ray aprons shall be stored on a flat surface or hangers of the particular application to prevent cracks at the protective core materials. **Lead free / light weight core material is resistance to single fold for reasonable short period of time with light or no weight on top. It is advisable to avoid unnecessary folding on any type of apron to prolong their lifespan. Hook and loop fasteners must be secured properly to avoid snagging or tearing of fabric. Always store apron with fasteners completely secured. Hanging of thyroid shield, hat guard and other non-uniform shape's apron with reasonable curving at turning line is acceptable.**

4. Dispose of Lead Aprons Properly

MALRAY's apron with the core material label SUPERLIGHT or GREENLIGHT are **lead free**. We may produce certain low lead apron upon user request. The user may send the damaged aprons back to us or contact us for any further information on handling of lead or lead free apron's disposal.

5. Expose Apron to Extreme Temperatures

The x-ray apron shall be avoided for being exposed to extreme hot or cold temperatures or to direct sunlight.

6. Lean Against Pointed Objects or Sharp Edges

Avoid storing sharp objects in the pockets. X-ray aprons can become damaged while lean up against sharp or pointed objects, creating perforations in the core material and reducing the attenuating qualities of the lead.

7. Store Aprons Over Chair Backs or Equipment

Laying aprons over a chair back or piece of equipment can create creases in the core material and can reduce the useful life of the apron.