

Silicon Substrate Cleaning

1. Simple Clean
 1. Removes organic contaminants
 2. Process
 1. Cover the surface of the wafer with Acetone.
 2. Thoroughly scrub the surface of the wafer with a swab.
 3. Rinse the wafer with IPA.
 4. Blow-dry the wafer with N₂ gun.
2. Photoresist Stripper
3. O₂ Plasma Etching
 1. O₂ plasma etching will remove organic films and residues. O₂ plasma etching can be done in the asher.
 2. [Link to asher](#)
4. Piranha Clean
 1. Removes organic materials (photoresist, oil, etc.)
 2. **WARNINGS: Do not use Piranha clean on metals**
 3. Process
 1. Mix 98% H₂SO₄ (sulfuric acid) and 30% H₂O₂ (hydrogen peroxide) in volume ratios of 2-4:1 **(Always smoothly add acid into water or H₂O₂: The reaction is exothermic so ensure that the container can handle the heat. If you are not sure consult authorized personnel.)**
 2. Heat to 100°C **(Newly prepared mixture is boiling, no need to provide heating.)**
5. RCA Clean
 1. Removes organic, oxide, and metallic contaminants
 2. Process
 1. Organic Clean: Removal of insoluble organic contaminants with a 5:1:1 H₂O:H₂O₂:NH₄OH solution **(at 60~70°C)**.
 2. Oxide Strip: Removal of a thin silicon dioxide layer where metallic contaminants may accumulated, using a diluted 20:1 H₂O:HF solution.
 3. Ionic Clean: Removal of ionic and heavy metal atomic contaminants using a solution of 6:1:1 H₂O:H₂O₂: HCl **(at 60~70°C)**.