



austyle architectural hardware

superior brass

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Cleaning Powder Coated Products

Plated, powder coated and/or lacquered finishes (CP / SC / PB / ATQ / Iron / Black / White / SB) are classified as a soft finish and may deteriorate under certain environmental conditions. This is not a product fault but rather a natural deterioration process that requires maintenance and as such is excluded from warranty.

Why Cleaning Matters

Cleaning powder coat surfaces isn't just about maintaining an alluring aesthetic. It's integral to the functionality of the piece in a lot of cases. Dirt grime, acids, detergents are all potential catalysts that may cause the powder coating to deteriorate. That's why it's essential to regularly maintain and clean the surface of all powder coated products in a timely fashion relative to their daily use and exposure and the harshness of its installed environment.

Old-Fashioned Soap and Water

If you're trying to perform a particularly thorough cleaning, you'll need to use plain soap and water for the job. Just make sure it's a mild soap. The washing needs to be performed with a soft brush or soft cloth using a mild soap and warm water solution. When picking the best kind of soap, opt for one that has the necessary emulsifiers for breaking down stains. That's the key to removing stains from powder-coated metals.

When it comes to soap and water cleaning, how often you'll need to clean depends on how exposed to the environment your handle is. The higher the direct exposure to the elements or use, the more often it should be cleaned, with highly critical parts being cleaned weekly to maintain their appearance and protect the handle from environmental corrosion. After you give it a wash, you can wipe it all down and rinse it with water. Remember to dry the water off to avoid water streaking.

Waxing

Not all powder-coated metals are going to experience the same conditions, so cleaning efforts need to be managed accordingly. Waxing powder coat metals, for example, can be helpful, but it's really only necessary for surfaces that other materials come into contact with, regardless of what the material is. Some of these surfaces include any kind of handles, along with outdoor furniture, stairways, and lighting fixtures.

You can use a generic car wax for this as long as it's non-abrasive. A lot of car wax also comes with UV blockers and inhibitors, which are also handy for powder-coated metal surfaces. Stay away from compound-type waxes, as they can cause damage to the coating. Much like waxing a car, be sure to remove any clumps of wax that remain. It's a lot easier to get out a water stain than it is to get out a wax stain that's baked into the surface.

Warranty Information

- Some lacquered and powder coated products are intended to either form a patina and or change with use over the life of the product thereby adding character to the product.
- Regular maintenance of the finish is recommended every 3 months to remove any build of dirt and grime, oils or sweat, rust or other environmental contaminants in order for the finish warranty to remain valid.

- The warranty on the finish will be void where abrasive cleaners and solvents, corrosive or harsh detergents or cleaning products are used on the surface of the products.
 - Masking tape or similar protective tapes and adhesives applied to the surface of the products will also void the finish warranty.
 - All hardware should be removed from the doors where there is paint works or finishing still in progress.
 - No warranty on the finish is available where handles are installed while building works are in progress.
 - Only install the handles at the completion of any building works.
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