



## DOOR HARDWARE

CARE & MAINTENANCE

### STAINLESS STEEL

Like any other metal surface, stainless steel requires periodic cleaning and maintenance. Suggested intervals between cleanings will vary depending on environmental conditions. Surfaces exposed to the weather in outdoor environments will require more frequent maintenance than those used indoors. Please follow the guidelines below to maintain the appearance of your stainless steel door and cabinet hardware:

#### GENERAL CLEANING OF STAINLESS STEEL

Wash the surface using a soft cloth or brush with warm water and a mild, non-acid detergent such as a hand dishwashing liquid. Nonchlorinated cleaning products such as Simple Green® or household window cleaners may also be used. Dry with a soft cloth.

#### PERIODIC MAINTENANCE OF STAINLESS STEEL

Stainless steel's bright appearance can be maintained by occasional polishing with a soft cloth dipped in common household white vinegar. Commercial cleaners and metal polishes specifically formulated for stainless steel may also be used.

#### REMOVING HEAVIER SOILING OR DISCOLORATION FROM STAINLESS STEEL

Heavier soiling or superficial discoloration can be removed using a paste of baking soda on a damp sponge or Scotch-Brite™ delicate-duty cleaning pad. Rub the surface gently and evenly and then rinse with fresh water. Dry with a soft cloth. While stainless steel is highly resistant to corrosion, superficial rusting can occur in extreme environments or when regular periodic maintenance has been neglected. Stains can be removed with Whink® Rust Remover followed by a thorough rinsing with fresh water and drying with a soft cloth.

#### ADDITIONAL TIPS FOR MAINTAINING STAINLESS STEEL

- Avoid the use of chlorine bleach or other chlorine-based cleaners. These products can react with the stainless steel and pit the surface.
- Avoid the use of steel wool or other cleaning tools containing carbon steel such as wire brushes. Small particles of steel wool or wire can become embedded in the surface of the stainless steel. The steel particles will rust and give the appearance that the stainless steel itself is rusting.
- Avoid the use of abrasive cleaners or scouring powders that will scratch the stainless steel surface.
- If cleaning pads must be used, use pads made of nylon such as Scotch-Brite delicate duty pads. Use extra care when working with polished finishes to avoid scratching.
- Use soft cloth such as terry cloth to wipe down stainless steel. Some paper products are abrasive and can scratch the stainless steel surface.
- When the stainless steel surface has a perceptible grain or directional finish, rub with the grain, not against it, to avoid depositing small particles of the cleaning material in the stainless steel surface.
- Always dry the stainless steel surface with a soft cloth or chamois after cleaning to avoid spotting.
- Clean the stainless steel more frequently when surfaces are exposed to salt, automobile exhaust, air pollution or other environmental contaminants.
- Don't let routine dirt and debris remain on the stainless steel surface for extended periods. Regular light maintenance will reduce the need for more aggressive cleaning.

### BRONZE AND BRASS (EXCLUDING OIL RUBBED BRONZE)

These yellow metals will all naturally develop a patina with time and use. Unless otherwise specified, bronze and brass finishes receive a light coating of lacquer which protects the finish during shipping and will break down quite rapidly. When the lacquer begins to break down, it should be removed using lacquer thinner or other solvent. Door and cabinet hardware should be polished regularly using a soft, clean cloth and a non-abrasive cleaner/polish such as Brasso®, GMS Miracle Shine or Brite Boy Metal Polish.

### OIL RUBBED BRONZE

This material will naturally develop a patina and wear irregularly with time and use. Wipe surface regularly with a clean cotton cloth. Avoid the use of Brasso®, GMS Miracle Shine and Brite Boy Metal Polish. These cleaning products may remove the oil-rubbed finish.

### ALUMINUM

Anodized finishes are very durable and do not require special maintenance. Routine dirt and grime can be removed using a soft, clean cloth or brush and a mild soap solution. All-purpose household or commercial spray cleaners may also be used. Avoid the use of strong acid or alkali cleaners.

### SANTOPRENE® AND NEOPRENE

Santoprene and Neoprene finishes are very durable and do not require special maintenance. Routine dirt and grime can be removed using a soft, clean cloth or brush and a mild soap solution. Avoid the use of abrasive cleaners.