COLLINGWOOD
LIGHTING

CARE, MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING OF STAINLESS STEEL

The corrosion resistance of Stainless Steel stems from an extremely thin but tenacious and self repairing film which forms on its surface. This imparts the properties of stainless resistance, non-tainting of food, hygiene, cleanability and aesthetic appearance which make it the ideal choice. Furthermore, it does not chip, flake, craze, crack or break.

Stainless steel will be unaffected by the normal conditions of use. Routine simple gentle cleaning will reward the owner with a product which retains its properties and appearance throughout years of constant daily usage.

Because of its reputation for durability, Stainless Steel is sometimes assumed to be indestructible and therefore subjected to abuse such as the "DON'TS" list below. Care should be taken to avoid misuse, such as its installation in highly corrosive environments having high density salt or chlorine vapours - unless regular routine cleaning is applied to prevent corrosion.

DO'S

- **Routine simple and gentle cleaning**
- **Use cleaners showing "Suitable for Stainless Steel"**
- **Employ repeated routine cleaning rather than an aggressive single cleaning**

DON'TS

- **Use coarse abrasive powders**
- **Use metallic scourers**
- **Use "Silver Cleaners"**
- **Subject to "misuse"**





ROUTINE CLEANING

Stainless Steel's best friends are quite simply soap, or mild dilute detergent, or dilute ammonia in warm water, applied with a soft cloth or synthetic sponge. Rinse well, dry with a soft cloth or drip dry.

Occasionally the use of a mild household cleaner, a fine synthetic scourer or a brush with nylon bristles may be used. Routine cleaning applied repeatedly over several days will often remove heavy soiling and staining which has occurred will become less noticeable (may even completely disappear).

PROBLEM	SOLUTION
CHEMICALS i.e. Swimming Pool Acid, Battery acid.	• Rinse immediately with warm ammonia solution. Repeated routine cleaning will often remove the stain over a period of time. • Avoid contact with aggressive chemicals.
CHLORINE/SALT ATTACK leading to "TEA STAINING" i.e. unventilated indoor swimming pool, sea front area. Tea staining being the discolouration of the surface of stainless steel by corrosion. See **http://www.assda.asn.au/technical-info/technical-faqs/preventing-coastal-corrosion-tea-staining**	• If heavy, the use of a stainless steel cleaner or a specialised cleaning company would be required. Polishing would be needed if pitted. Follow by routine cleaning. • Usually prevented by routine cleaning. • Don't allow excessive attack before treating.
TREE LEAVES STAINS	• Repeated routine cleaning over a period of days. Use of a mild household cleaner may be necessary. If heavy, the use of a stainless steel cleaner or a specialised cleaning company would be required. • Avoid prolonged contact of tree leaves.
GREASE, FATS, OILS	• Wipe off excess with soft paper towel. Clean with warm detergent. Follow by routine cleaning. • Slight residue of grease, fat, oil is often the cause of a dull bluish film.
LABELS (STICK ON)	• Clean well with warm water. Rub periodically with soft cloth/sponge. If adhesive remains, dry and rub off with soft cloth soaked in alcohol or organic solvent. • DO NOT scour or scratch off.
RUST STAINS	• If heavy, the use of a stainless steel cleaner or a specialised cleaning company would be required, followed by routine cleaning. Light stains will be removed by repeated routine cleaning. • Don't leave ordinary steel in contact with Stainless Steel under damp conditions.
WATER MARKS/LIME SCALE	• Prolonged cleaning with a 25% vinegar solution will loosen the deposit. Periodically rub with nylon bristle brush or synthetic scourer. Follow by routine cleaning. • Usually prevented by routine cleaning. • Don't allow excessive build-up before treating.