

Metlam Australia
Care & Maintenance Guide
Stainless Steel

Cleaning and Maintaining Stainless Steel

While durable, stainless steel benefits from cleaning to maintain a high quality finish and long life expectancy.

(1) Guidelines for day-to-day upkeep

-  Before commencing any cleaning regime, remember to disconnect any electrical cables.

Metlam Australia stainless steel products look best when cleaned regularly.

Simply wipe stainless steel surfaces with warm soft water and mild neutral pH soap or detergent using a clean damp cloth or sponge. On satin stainless steel, follow the direction of the grain for best results.

After wiping, rinse with clean water and wipe the surface dry with a soft absorbent cloth. This ensures that streaky marks aren't left behind. For stubborn spots or light tea staining mild cleaning solutions or lubricants like WD40 may be effective. Ensure any proprietary cleaners state compatibility with stainless steel and follow instructions.

-  Do not drag rough items across the surface, particularly across the grain of satin stainless steel. This will spoil the finish and can cause scratches.
-  Do not rub with steel/wire wool or a metal brush or scrape with steel tools. This can cause scratches and leave behind steel fragments that can cause discolouration.
-  Do not use scourers or cleaning cloths that have previously been used on ordinary (carbon) steel. This can transfer microscopic steel fibres that can cause discolouration.
-  Do not use cleaning products containing chlorine bleach, hydrochloric, or muriatic acid. This can compromise the chromium oxide film that protects the stainless steel beneath.

Using incorrect cleaning products/methods can damage your Metlam Australia stainless steel product and void the Metlam Australia Warranty.

(2) Suggested scheduled preventive maintenance regime

If left in contact with salts or acids or not maintained correctly for extended periods, Metlam Australia stainless steel products may be compromised. Applying regular hygiene measures, like a maintenance/cleaning schedule, will minimise any potential problems and will ensure the product will perform at its optimal. Metlam Australia also advises that to comply with Metlam Australia Product Warranty conditions, the following recommended regular maintenance regime should be applied.

High Traffic Area

	Severe Environment	Moderate Environment	Mild Environment
Routine Cleaning:	Daily	Daily	Daily
Cleaning Guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide
Maintenance Regime	1-3 months	4-8 months	9-12 months
Inspection Regime	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements
Maintenance Guide	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove any residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove any residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove any residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.

Medium Traffic Areas

	Severe Environment	Moderate Environment	Mild Environment
Routine Cleaning:	Daily	Daily	Weekly
Cleaning Guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide
Maintenance Regime	1-3 months	4-8 months	9-12 months
Inspection Regime	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements
Maintenance Guide	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove any residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove any residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove any residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.

Low Traffic Areas

	Severe Environment	Moderate Environment	Mild Environment
Routine Cleaning:	Daily	Weekly	Weekly
Cleaning Guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide	As per day-to-day upkeep guide
Maintenance Regime	1-3 months	4-8 months	9-12 months
Inspection Regime	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements	Inspect surface to ascertain state and maintenance requirements
Maintenance Guide	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner following instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner following instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface	Gently scrub away any accumulated dirt or grime using a soft nylon brush. Cleanse the surface using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner be sure to follow instructions Thoroughly rinse the stainless steel with clean water to remove residue. Ensure the stainless steel is completely dry. Use a soft cloth, disposable wipe, to achieve a dry surface.

Analysis

Usage - Expected number of users per day in facility	Environment - Environment factors of the facility
Facilities are broken up into three usage type areas.	Facilities are broken into three main environments depending on location, exposure and usage.
High Traffic Facility - Such as shopping centres where a facility can be used 200 + times per day.	Severe - Facilities that are close to a coastal environment, or within an aquatic centre or gym showers, where they exposed to harsh conditions or chemicals daily.
Medium Traffic Facility - Such as an office/commercial building where a facility can be used 100-200 times per day.	Moderate - Facilities that are exposed to aggressive use or cleaning regimes such as schools, sporting arenas, hospitals & airports
Low Traffic Facility - Such as a small workplace where a facility can be used up to 100 times per day.	Mild - Facilities that are within a controlled environment such as offices, residential or hotel.

(3) Repairing wear and tear

304 grade stainless steel is typically specified because of its ability to resist corrosion in a variety of environments. Unfortunately, stainless steel is not fully stain or rust-proof, it is just more resistant to corrosion, that's why it's called "stain less" steel.

Lack of a proper cleaning regime, exposure to corrosive fluids and cleaners, high humidity or high salinity environments such as seawater can remove the protective layer (chromium oxide) and can cause stainless steel to tarnish or "tea stain".



You will notice the discolouration on the side of the shelf, this is tarnishing/tea staining.

To remove tarnishing, we recommended using a proprietary stainless steel cleaner as per the instructions with a microfibre cloth.

You can also research on restoring the passive layer on your stainless steel item if required.



For more information on how to clean and maintain your Metlam Australia products visit the Metlam Australia YouTube channel [here](#)