

## METLAM AUSTRALIA STAINLESS STEEL PRODUCT CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

- \* Before commencing any cleaning regime, remember to disconnect any electrical cables.
- \* Metlam stainless steel products look best when cleaned regularly with a clean damp cloth.
- \* Drying afterwards makes sure streaky marks aren't left behind.
- \* Routine cleaning prevents any stubborn stains from building up and ensures best results on finish.

### WHAT TO USE

For everyday cleaning, wipe the surface with a damp soft cloth or sponge. You may also use a mixture of warm water and mild Neutral pH soap or detergent (such as PZ Cussons Morning Fresh).  
***After cleaning, wipe the surface dry with a soft absorbent cloth.***

### AVOID SCRATCHES

Stainless Steel can be scratched by careless handling or aggressive scrubbing. Avoid dragging rough items across the surface and be aware that grit, trapped under other materials, can actually cause surface scratches.

### CHEMICAL REACTION

If left in contact with salts or acids 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.

Using incorrect cleaning products can damage your Metlam stainless steel product and void the warranty.

### AVOID:

- \* **Rubbing with steel wool (wire wool) or scraping with steel tools**
- \* **Using scourers and cleaning cloths that have been used on ordinary steel**
- \* **Rubbing plastic scourers across the grain of brushed surfaces**
- \* **Using concentrated bleach or hydrochloric acid-based cleaning products**
- \* **Contact with products containing chlorine bleach, hydrochloric or muriatic acid**

### HOW TO FIX TARNISHING?

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 sea water can remove the native protective layer (chromium oxide) and can cause stainless steel to tarnish or "tea stain".

Removing Tarnishing from surfaces restores the appearance, but it's importance goes beyond appearance. Left unchecked, tarnish can lead to serious rust & pitting and structural damage to products and components and can impact the performance of instrumentation, contaminate flow paths, and impact reliability.

To remove tarnishing, we recommended to use a Stainless-Steel restorer such as Brasso or equivalent with a microfiber cloth and to use as per instructions. Brasso can be purchased from any general hardware store such as Bunnings.

*How to recognise of tarnishing on a Stainless-Steel shelf*

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



For more information on cleaning stainless steel, visit the [Australian Stainless Steel Development Association](#).

The technical recommendations contained in this document are necessarily of a general nature and should not be relied on for specific applications without first securing competent advice. Whilst Metlam Australia Pty Ltd has taken all reasonable steps to ensure the information contained herein is accurate and current, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the information and does not accept liability for errors or omissions. Any stainless-steel product should only be installed by a competent tradesperson and serviced/maintained by knowledgeable janitorial staff or competent people. Metlam Australia accepts no responsibility for any damage to product, walls or fixtures due to incorrect installation or maintenance of any of their products.