



Steel Door + Window Systems

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Care & Maintenance

Abraded Finishes on Stainless Steel Doors + Frames

Abraded Finishes on Stainless Steel Doors and Frames

Your Stiles textured (i.e. No. 4, Non-Directional, Angel Hair, Bead-Blasted, or Random Swirl finished) stainless steel doors and frames have been delivered without any type of factory-applied protective coating such as lacquer, wax, or other surface protection.

Though virtually maintenance-free, areas of the door surfaces that come into human contact may produce fingerprints due to salts and oils in skin. Routine maintenance, including cleaning and polishing are required in order to maintain the brilliance and rich luster of the finish.

■ Unpacking and Storage

It is recommended that doors and frames be carefully unpacked on-site just prior to installation, and placed in a vertical position. When securing or transporting doors and frames, do NOT allow ropes, straps, or cords to come into direct contact with the stainless surfaces -- scratching may occur. NOTE: Stainless steel is an extremely hard material but CAN be scratched. Doors and frames should be stored in a clean, dry area, free from dirt and debris.

■ Handling and Installation

Installers should take care to avoid surface scratching by removing all rings, watches, or other jewelry items prior to handling or installing doors. Disposable latex gloves are recommended during handling and installation.

If areas of the doors or frames require masking, 3M Blue Masking Tape is recommended. Tape should not be allowed to remain on stainless surfaces over 5 days. Upon removal of tape, denatured alcohol or MEK (on a microfiber towel) may be used to remove any adhesive residue. Stainless surfaces should be protected when drilling or tapping any adjacent ferrous metals, as rust or discoloration may occur.

■ Cleaning and Polishing

After final factory-finishing, doors and frames are custom packaged and shipped from the factory on specifically engineered pallets or crates. During shipping, the soft bubble-wrap packing may leave a minute amount of residue on the doors and frames. This necessitates on-site cleaning and polishing after installation. Most alloys of stainless steel are not highly reactive to chemicals. However, caution must be exercised when using cleansers, polishes, and waxes on stainless steel products.

PRODUCTS TO AVOID

Any cleaning and polishing products that are abrasive or contain harsh chemicals such as ammonia or chlorine should be avoided. These include:

- Brasso, Semichrome, or any other commercially available metal polishes or creams
- Windex, Formula 409, and all ammonia-based products (produces streaks)
- Degreasing agents, powdered cleansers, paint thinners, or harsh solvents
- Furniture polish or paste waxes

Any cleaning towels that are abrasive must be avoided. These include:

- Paper towels of ANY kind
- Commercial Terrycloth, linen, or cotton rags / towels (no matter how "soft" they feel to the touch)
- Avoid squeegees, sponges, or any type of scouring pad
- Avoid razor blades, scrapers, putty knives, etc.

■ Recommended Cleaning Products

The following products are recommended for the cleaning of textured stainless steel doors and frames:



Cleaner and Polish (in one)

Sprayway® brand Stainless Steel Cleaner & Polish may be used to clean textured stainless doors and frames when utilized in conjunction with a soft microfiber cleaning cloth. All dust and debris should be blown (not wiped) from stainless surfaces prior to cleaning.

Apply Sprayway® Stainless Steel Cleaner & Polish to the entire door or frame surface and gently buff with a microfiber cloth.

ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES! Unlike other stainless cleaners, Sprayway® contains no harsh chemicals, and is "streak-free" on textured stainless surfaces. Available at many Home Depot stores nationwide.

Microfiber Cleaning Towels

Utilize ONLY microfiber towels when cleaning or polishing stainless doors and frames. Unlike standard linen towels or rags, microfiber towels DO NOT leave lint trapped in texture recesses. Be sure to remove the paper label from each towel prior to use to avoid scratching.

Microfiber towels may be washed after use, but chemicals in detergent may produce streaks.

Microfiber towels are available nationwide at Ace Hardware stores, as well as most Costco stores (best price). Towels are also available at most auto detailing outlets.



Our Care & Maintenance Guides are prepared as tools designed to inform our customers of techniques that relate to the post-delivery care of our products. It is our goal to help you make informed decisions when designing, specifying, ordering, installing, or maintaining Stiles products.

Stiles makes no guarantee as to the accuracy of information obtained from outside sources. Whenever possible, links will be provided for additional information, and sources cited.