

# HOW TO CLEAN STAINLESS STEEL WASHROOM PRODUCTS



Cleaning stainless steel finishes is straightforward, however, regular cleaning and maintenance are necessary to preserve its aesthetic appearance.

This guide provides detailed instructions on how to clean stainless steel washroom products, post-installation cleaning procedures, and insightful information about stainless steel.

## STAINLESS STEEL CLEANING MATERIALS

The following materials will be needed to clean [stainless steel washroom products](#) in commercial washrooms:

- › Soft clean microfiber cloths
- › Good quality chamois leather cloth
- › Warm clean water
- › Etolit Stainless Steel Cleaner
- › Scotch-Brite Hand Pad (if necessary)

Please visit our website to purchase the [Dolphin stainless steel cleaning set](#)  
[www.dolphinsolutions.co.uk](http://www.dolphinsolutions.co.uk)

## STAINLESS STEEL CLEANING METHOD

### CLEANING STEPS:

- 1. Consult the Cleaning Agent's Datasheet**
  - › Before cleaning, refer to the product's datasheet of the cleaning agent for specific instructions.
  - › If using a surface cleaner, be sure to follow the instructions and precautions on the label.

- 2. Dusting Off**

- › Use a dry, soft microfiber cloth to gently dust off any loose particles. This prevents scratching during the cleaning of stainless steel products.

- 3. Prepare Cleaning Solution**

- › Apply a very light coat of Etolit to the dusted off and clean stainless steel surface.
- › For optimal cleaning results, apply a light coat of Etolit and let it sit for at least 10 minutes.

- 4. Wipe Down**

- › Gently wipe the surface with a cloth.
- › Important: When using a Scotch-Brite Hand Pad, always rub gently in the direction of the stainless steel grain - never against it.

- 5. For Tougher Stains and Scratches**

- › Rub stained surfaces vigorously with a dry clean cloth.
- › Repeat the cleaning method if necessary.
- › Small scratches can be carefully removed using a Scotch-Brite Hand Pad, and then finished with a stainless steel cleaner.

- 6. Rinse**

- › Dampen another microfiber cloth with clean water and rinse the surface.

- 7. Drying**

- › Use a dry, clean good quality chamois leather cloth to dry the surface. Make sure no water spots are left, as they can leave marks.

## WHAT TO AVOID

- › Do not use coarse abrasive powders.
- › Do not use metallic scourers or brushes with metal bristles.

- › Do not use hard objects such as knife blades.
- › Under no circumstances should concentrated bleach, hydrochloric acid based solutions, such as silver cleaners, or build mortar removal solutions contact the stainless steel surfaces. Hypochlorite containing bleaches must be used in the dilutions suggested in the manufacturer's instructions and contact times kept to a minimum. Thorough rinsing after use is very important.

## CLEANING PRECAUTIONS

- › Acids should only be used for on-site cleaning when all other methods have been proved unsatisfactory. Consult the maintenance agent or manufacturer first.
- › Rubber gloves should be used and care taken to see that acid cleaners are not split over adjacent areas.
- › Special precautions are necessary with oxalic acid.
- › Solvents should not be used in closed places.
- › Smoking must be avoided when using solvents.

## RECOMMENDED FREQUENCY TO MAINTAIN STAINLESS STEEL

Clean stainless steel regularly instead of occasional deep cleaning.

Experience will determine the appropriate interval between each regular clean because the optimal cleaning frequency can vary greatly

depending on several factors specific to each commercial washroom.

These factors include the type of washroom (superloo, traditional etc.), the number of people using it, and the presence of any particular sources of dirt or contamination.

By continually assessing these factors and adjusting the cleaning schedule accordingly, one can ensure that washroom products remain clean, safe, and pleasant to use.

## ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE TIPS FOR STAINLESS STEEL

- › **Regular Maintenance:** Regular schedules to clean stainless steel washroom products are essential to preserving their aesthetic appeal and corrosion resistance. Dust, grime, aggressive salts, and other contaminants can settle on the surface, compromising both the appearance and durability of all grades of stainless steel. Routine cleaning is necessary to prevent dulling, discolouration, staining, and potential corrosion caused by the accumulation of these substances.
- › **Expertise:** Adequately qualified personnel must be responsible to clean stainless steel washroom products.
- › **Detergents and cleaners:** Only use proprietary brands of cleaners that state 'suitable for stainless steel'. Dolphin Solutions highly recommends Etolit for the cleaning, maintenance, and protection of Dolphin stainless steel products.
- › **Handling:** It is advisable to clean stainless steel while wearing gloves to prevent fingerprint marks and other blemishes.

- › **Consult Maintenance Agent:** If uncertain about the cleaning methods, materials, or cleaning detergents, it is recommended to contact Dolphin Solutions or the manufacturer of the cleaning detergent before cleaning stainless steel products.

## **POST INSTALLATION CLEANING PROCEDURE**

Cleaning stainless steel after installation should be done as soon as possible to remove any dust, dirt and grime that may have settled on the surface of the product during installation. A plastic covering should also be used to protect the products if other surrounding building works are still in progress.

The plastic covering on a new stainless steel product stops the natural process of self-passivation (the formation of a protective oxide layer on the surface). This process will only begin after the plastic covering is removed. Any adhesive residues and substances present in the washroom (e.g. glue, grime or salts) which settle on the surface, will impede and impair the self-passivation.

## **GUIDELINES FOR MAINTAINING STAINLESS STEEL PRODUCTS POST INSTALLATION**

- › Clean the product to remove any adhesive residues using stainless steel cleaner.
- › Frequently clean the surface during the initial weeks of exposure to keep it free of settled substances during building works. This also stimulates the formation of the passive film.

## **ABOUT STAINLESS STEEL WASHROOM PRODUCTS**

The corrosion resistance of Dolphin stainless steel (grade 304) washroom products stems from an extremely thin but tenacious and self-repairing passive film, which forms on the surface of the stainless steel. This imparts stain resistance, food safety, easy cleaning, and elegant appearance, making stainless steel ideal for high-end items like Dolphin products in commercial washrooms. Further, it does not chip, flake, craze, crack or break.

Stainless steel will be unaffected by normal conditions of everyday use. Regular, gentle cleaning will maintain the product's properties and appearance over years of continuous daily use. Surface deposits can cause staining and discolouration in all grades of stainless steel, meaning they require ongoing maintenance and are not completely maintenance free.

Due to stainless steel's renowned durability, Dolphin washroom products are occasionally perceived as indestructible, leading to potential misuse or abuse. It's important to handle them with care to avoid such 'abnormal' use.

Splashing stainless steel with undiluted bleach solutions and mortar cleaners frequently causes staining and micro-pitting.

**Dolphin Solutions Ltd**

Southpoint, Compass Park,  
Junction Road  
Bodiam, TN32 5BS,  
United Kingdom

T +44 (0)1424 202 224  
customerservice@dolphinsolutions.co.uk  
dolphinsolutions.co.uk

© Dolphin Solutions Ltd