

STAINLESS STEEL

Stainless steel is exactly what its name implies. It stains and rusts less than regular steel. That does not mean that it does not stain or rust at all.

The degree or rate of staining or rusting depends on how corrosive the environment is. For instance, salt water is more corrosive than fresh water.

Care of Stainless Steel

Stainless steel has a surface layer of stainless oxides that provide some protection to the surface from contamination and further oxidation (rusting). The key to long life is to keep the stainless surface clean and leave the layer of protection oxides in tact.

The simplest way to care for a stainless product is to rinse it with fresh water on a regular basis.

Occasionally, the stainless product should be cleaned with borax, soda ash, or any other non-abrasive commercial cleaning agent mixed with water. Stubborn stains may be removed with a paste consisting of magnesium oxide, ammonia and water, or by using stainless steel wool.

The longer a stain is left on the surface of a stainless product, the greater the chance of permanent discoloration or damage.

Contact with chemicals containing chlorides is the most damaging. For instance, sea water, salt, scrubbing powders (Ajax, Comet, etc.) or bleach to name only a few. Exposure to these chemicals requires IMMEDIATE CLEANING.

Suggestions to follow for keeping your stainless product like new are:

1. Always rinse stainless items with fresh water after any cleaning operation and then wipe it dry.
2. Use the mildest cleaning procedure that will do a job effectively without altering the appearance of the product.
3. Routine cleaning maintenance of the stainless products is better than "catch up" types of cleaning and refinishing.

A tip from a Connecticut Yankee!

Occasional waxing will protect your stainless steel. Any automotive wax will do. Just maintain it as you would any other waxed product.