

WEST PORCH

Care & Maintenance

Powder Coated Surfaces

Regular maintenance is essential to preserve the aesthetics and longevity of powder coated surfaces. Follow these guidelines to ensure optimal care without risking damage to the finish.

Cleaning Recommendations

- Perform bi-annual cleaning to prevent the accumulation of dirt and pollutants that can dull the surface.
- Use warm, clean water and a neutral washing agent or mild detergent solution, as directed, with a soft, non-abrasive cloth or rag.
- Under no circumstances use a pressure washer to clean; use caution when pressure washing deck, stone or concrete surfaces near cabinets.
- Avoid abrasive brushes or sponges to prevent scratching.
- Rinse the surface thoroughly with fresh water immediately after cleaning.
- Ensure the surface temperature does not exceed 77°F (25°C) to prevent staining.
- Limit the cleaning solution's contact with the surface to 30 minutes.

Avoid Harsh Chemicals

- Do not use solvents containing ester, ketones, polyhydric alcohol, aromatics, ethylene glycol, halogenated hydrocarbons, chlorides, quaternary salts, or hydrochloric acid (muriatic acid) on the cabinetry.
- Avoid cleaners with unknown compositions, abrasive agents, strong acids, or alkaline cleaners.

Special Considerations

- In regions with increased salt contamination or chemical exposure, such as coastal areas, clean the surfaces more often.
- Test cleaning products in an inconspicuous area first to prevent discoloration or damage to the finish.

Additional Tips

- Keep records of cleaning schedules, frequencies, and products used for documentation purposes.
- Be cautious of lotions, oils, and creams, as they may harm the powder coating; clean immediately if exposed.

Stainless Steel & Brass Pulls

To maintain the quality and appearance of stainless steel and brass pulls, follow these guidelines, especially in salt air environments:

Cleaning Recommendations

- Perform regular cleaning to prevent the accumulation of dirt, grime, and oxidation.

- Use clean water with a soft, non-abrasive cloth or rag to gently wipe down the surfaces.
- Avoid abrasive brushes or sponges to prevent scratching.
- Wipe dry with a soft, nonabrasive cloth.

Avoid Cleaners

- Do not use any abrasive or non-abrasive cleaners or solvents, whether chemical or organic, to clean the products as they may degrade or remove the patina, if present, completely

Special Considerations

- In regions with increased salt contamination or chemical exposure, such as coastal areas, clean the surfaces more often.

Additional Tips

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Living Finishes

- Oiled Rubbed Bronze (DOR) & Polished Nickel (PNI) hardware are “Living Finishes”
- Living finishes are designed to age naturally over time. Use the cleaning method above but the effects of age, climate, and use will work in conjunction to create unique, contrasted color variations. The most frequently handled areas will highlight as the patina wears off and natural shades of the brass are exposed. Untouched areas may oxidize further and the combination of colors and hues will accentuate the timeless elegance of the base material.
- How quickly this process occurs is dependent upon usage and environmental factors such as climate. The natural aging process will allow the underlying base metal to show through along areas of wear.

Stainless Steel Hinges

To maintain the quality and appearance of stainless steel hinges, follow these guidelines, especially in salt air environments:

Cleaning Recommendations

- Rinse regularly with water, particularly in salt air environments.
- Rust speckling may occur on the surface of stainless steel components in salt air environments. If it occurs, clean the surfaces with a light abrasive pad to remove discoloration.

Preventive Measures

- To help prevent rust speckling, apply a clear, Krylon-type spray onto the hinges which can be reapplied periodically, and/or
- Regularly spray the inside of the hinges with WD-40.

Styled Cabinetry

In climates where temperatures drop below freezing, a cover is required on Heath, Millwood and Manor styled products to ensure the elimination of ice build up in crevasses. If a water build up is apparent, remove by means of a cloth or shop-vac before covering for off-seasons.