



## EXTERIOR HARDWARE CARE &amp; MAINTENANCE

# Stainless steel *hardware care.*

Stainless steel architectural hardware for exterior joinery requires maintenance to ensure a fresh finish and to prevent discolouration or “tea staining.”



FRENCH DOORS

## To maintain stainless steel hardware

- 01 Wash regularly with clean, fresh water, mild detergent, and a cloth or soft brush.
- 02 Rinse with clean water and wipe the surface dry with a soft, absorbent cloth, going with the grain on brushed stainless steel.
- 03 Generally, wash the stainless steel every time you wash your windows or every 3–5 months.
- 04 Avoid using abrasive cleaners or scouring pads as they may cause wear and dull the finish.

## IF “TEA STAINING” OCCURS

- 01 Use a specialist cleaning product like 3M Stainless Steel Cleaner and a non-scratch cleaning sponge.
- 02 Apply clean water with the sponge and rub gently. If the mark doesn't shift, use a stainless-steel cleaner.
- 03 Rinse with clean fresh water and buff with a soft cloth.
- 04 Always rub with the grain to maintain the finish.
- 05 **Never use steel wool** as it may scratch the surface and leave fragments that could rust.