



## Exterior Stainless Steel Hardware Care and Maintenance

Care & Handling Stainless Steel Architectural Hardware for exterior joinery requires maintenance to ensure a fresh finish and to prevent discolouration or “tea staining.”

To maintain stainless steel hardware:

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

If “tea staining” occurs:

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