

Stock Windows & Doors

Finishing & Care Advice

Cleaning Aluminium and Anodised Finishes

Product Cleaning Frequency Guidelines

All powder coated surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth or sponge with a solution of warm water. Cleaning intervals depend on the following environments:

- Rural & Tropical: Mild – at least every 9 months
- Metropolitan: Moderate – at least every 6 months
- Coastal: Severe – at least every 3 months
- Within 5km of the Coast or Highly Polluted Industrial Area: Very severe – at least every month

Cleaning Powder Coated Aluminum Frames

Regular cleaning will help minimise the effects of weathering on your aluminium powder coated windows and doors.

Remove cement mortar dropping from windows immediately, taking care to avoid scratching glass and frames, as permanent damage can result. Stock Windows and Doors will not be liable for any damage that may occur if the timber or aluminium painted surfaces comes into contact with acid when cleaning brickwork.

Cleaning Aluminium Sliding Window and Door Tracks

To ensure better performance for your window and door tracks, it is recommended that you vacuum tracks on a regular basis

We recommend that you wipe tracks yearly with a light machine oil, for example, sewing machine oil. The machine oil will collect excess dirt and dust and make the sliding action much smoother.

Cleaning of Anodised Aluminium

Anodised aluminium finishes should be cleaned regularly to avoid deterioration of the coating. Deposited dirt can hold contaminated moisture on the anodised surface, which can cause corrosion of these components. Cleaning should be conducted in line with the Product Cleaning Frequency Guidelines. Clean the anodised aluminium surface by removing grime deposits without causing any damage to the anodic oxidation coating.

The cleaning method to be adopted depends on the degree of deterioration that may have already occurred. Hand rubbing is often used for small areas of work, but large areas of the anodised surfaces, for example multi-story buildings, call for carefully controlled methods to loosen adherent deposits. In this case professional cleaning is recommended.

The anodised aluminium should be washed with warm water containing a suitable wetting agent or with a mild soap solution. Fibre brushes may be used to loosen dirt.

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Cleaning of Anodised Aluminium (cont.)

DO NOT use emery paper, sand paper, steel wool or other highly abrasive materials, acid or alkaline cleaners as they can damage the anodic oxidation coating. The use of a mild abrasive such as pumice powder and water may sometimes be necessary. It is important that you rinse the product thoroughly using abundant application of clean water, particularly where crevices are present. Where greasy deposits are present, cleaning may be carried out using a soft cloth dipped in white spirit.

Since emulsion cleaners or proprietary chemical agents may damage the coating, they should NEVER be used except in consultation with companies who specialise in the cleaning of anodised aluminium. After cleaning anodised aluminium, it may be treated with a good quality wax polish.

Cleaning and Finishing of Timber Frames

Finishing of Timber Products

All Timber Windows and Doors are supplied unfinished and should be finished, stained, painted or sealed within 1 month of delivery. As timber is a natural product it can be greatly affected by the changes in weather which can cause the timber to warp, crack or in some cases rot.

To seal the product it is recommended that you use two coats of stain, paint or sealer. The entire product should be finished, this includes all faces and edges of the product, including the top and bottom.

Product Sanding

It is generally recommended by paint manufacturer's to give timber products a light sand before finishing. The surface should be prepared with appropriate sand paper and not with anything such as steel wool or metal scourers.

Always sand in the direction of the grain and avoid cross sanding. Our products feature veneer wrapped aluminium components, these products should not be sanded.

Extra care should be taken when finishing the products to ensure the hardware is not compromised as this will cause issues with the products operation.

Cleaning of Timber Frames

Use soft, clean cloths for cleaning, do not use scraping devices or abrasive cleaners. Wash down the frame with a soft cloth and mild detergent, rinse off any residue with clean water.

Keep the bottom tracks clean, ensuring to vacuum any dust and debris on a regular basis, wipe with a cloth and use a dry silica based lubricant if required to lightly grease tracks and any hinges. Ensure all opening sashes are operated regularly to ensure they continue to move smoothly.