

STAINLESS STEEL CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Stainless steel is a corrosion resistant chromium/nickel alloy steel that is strong and durable with excellent lustre. However, it is not rustproof, particularly in the harsh environment of a swimming pool. Chlorine and bromine used for sanitization are highly caustic chemicals for stainless steel and heat and humidity enhance the corrosiveness of these chemicals. Regular cleaning is the best way to prevent corrosion and add to the service life for your Ladders, Railings, Starting Blocks, Lifeguard Chairs and any other stainless steel equipment. The goal of your cleaning and maintenance program should be to keep the stainless steel's protective chromium oxide layer intact. This is what prevents corrosion.



GENERAL CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SUGGESTION FOR STAINLESS STEEL

DO: -

Rinse off stainless steel pool equipment frequently with fresh water to wash away accumulated chemicals such as chlorine and wipe dry with a clean cloth. Especially try to clean equipment immediately after use around chlorides (chlorine powder, seawater, etc.)

Clean frequently with fresh water or a cleaner that is safe for glass such as SU787 JPL Window, Glass and Stainless Steel Cleaner. Wet a cleaning cloth with the cleaning agent and rub down all areas.

Inspect equipment frequently, if you notice discoloration, tarnish or water stains, increase the frequency of cleaning to reduce accumulated chemicals.

Remove any rust spots as soon as possible to prevent irreversible pitting. For more tarnished areas we recommend Cream Cleaner such as "CIF" applied to a soft cloth, using gentle pressure rub stained areas in the same direction of the existing polishing grain until stains are removed then rinse with clean fresh water – **NOT POOL WATER.**

DO NOT: -

Do not use steel wool or sandpaper, or mineral acids, bleaches or chlorine cleansers.

Do not add chlorine to your pool right next to your stainless steel equipment. Add it as far away as possible.

Do not store stainless steel equipment in a closed area underneath steel beams to avoid corrosive condensation from dripping onto to the equipment and leaving brown spots.

Do not store stainless steel equipment where it will attract and retain moisture or airborne contaminants and do not store equipment in the same areas as chlorine.

ADVANCED CLEANING FOR STAINLESS STEEL

Discoloration, Tarnish or Water Stains: -

The first stage of corrosion is completely on the surface and is easily removed by most commercial metal polishes. Discoloration will be greater at indoor facilities due to the chlorine vapour trapped in an inside environment.

Light Rusting: -

Rust is visible at this stage but little or no pitting has yet occurred. A stronger cleaning agent such as "Cif" Cream Cleaner is required.

Heavy Rusting: -

A deep coat of rust with surface pitting can develop if corrosion has been left unchecked for a long time. For advanced corrosion Naval Jelly is recommended.

Surface Restoration: -

To remove or reduce pitting damage caused by corrosion, mechanical polishing is preferred chemical cleansing. Scotchbrite works well for this purpose. Work only in the direction of the existing grain and never use steel wool.

Corrosion Prevention: -

Apply a physical barrier between the stainless steel and corrosive agents by using a soft paste wax, such as an automotive wax. A coating of wax may last for up to six months, depending on equipment usage.