



Maintenance Guide

ALUMINIUM AND METAL PRODUCTS

External window and door frames should be washed with clean water. If the product is exposed to salt air or industrial pollutants it should be washed at least every three (3) months. In rural areas where normally there is very little contaminated moisture you may not need to clean your aluminium fittings more than every six (6) months.

Aluminium requires only minimal maintenance but, like your motor car, the finish may deteriorate if dirt collects on the surface and is allowed to remain unwashed over a period of time. This is because dirt absorbs moisture present in the atmosphere.

To clean aluminium use the mildest treatment you can to produce satisfactory results. Start with warm water and soap or detergent or for anodized material try solvent cleaners (e.g. kerosene, turpentine, white spirit) or non-etching chemical cleaners or a wax based polish cleaner. Keep water free from dirt and grit and ensure that the weep slots in the window and door tracks are clear to allow maximum drainage.

TIMBER PRODUCTS

The surface finish coating should be maintained in good condition on both internal and external faces. This can be achieved by regular cleaning with non abrasive cleaners and refinishing when breakdown of the coating occurs.

Initial finishing and refinishing must include all edges of doors including top and bottom. Steel wool or other metallic abrasives must not be used to sand cedar and other fine grain timbers. Use fine grit sandpaper or sanding blocks. To avoid water staining, keep tracks and sash openings clean and free of leaves and other debris which may retain water. Ensure that the weep slots in windows and doors are kept clear to allow maximum drainage.

uPVC PRODUCTS

An occasional wipe with a damp cloth or a wash with warm soapy water is all that is required.

GLASS

To clean, simply wipe over the surface with a few drops of methylated spirits on a damp cloth and then polish the surface dry with a lint free cloth. Proprietary glass cleaners are not recommended as some can cause damage to the silver backing on mirrors and the interlayer in laminated glass. Ensure that all cleaning cloths are free of any abrasive substances. Avoid causing extreme temperature changes as this may lead to thermal fracture of the glass (do not direct hot or cold water onto glass).

HARDWARE

Regular maintenance is required for all hardware, even stainless steel, as they are moving parts. In most environments maintenance is recommended every six (6) months and every three (3) months in marine and industrial environments.

Hangers, pivots and brackets should be given a light spray of a corrosion preventative (such as CRC Marine 66, Innox or WD40) followed by a light wipe with a dry cloth to remove excess. Exposed surfaces should first be wiped down with warm soapy water and a soft rag, and then rinsed clean before applying preventative.

Visible surfaces of hinges should be wiped down with warm soapy water on a soft rag and then rinsed off by wiping with a clean damp rag. Application of a thin film of light machine oil or one of the corrosion preventative sprays mentioned above will help to maintain the original lustre of the metal finish. Be careful not to get these compounds on the timberwork itself as they may cause staining.

Drop bolts should be sprayed with a lubricant such as those mentioned above at the sliding pin inside the bolt and to the lock cylinder. A tube attached to the nozzle will help to concentrate the spray where you want it to go.