

Stainless Steel Sink Cleaning and Reconditioning Procedure



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Stainless Steel Sink Cleaning and Reconditioning Procedure

Occasionally stainless steel sinks may require reconditioning. Spotting, discolouration or corrosion can occur. This may be due to harsh water effects or chemicals, extended contact with iron/steel utensils or particles, or even from periods of non-use.

Stainless steel achieves corrosion resistance from the formation of a tough, thin, and transparent chrome oxide layer on the surface. This layer forms automatically and immediately in contact with oxygen, and is replenished if it is scratched or removed. This layer may discolor or spot under certain use conditions.

Stainless steel sinks are manufactured with various surface treatments to achieve different appearance and textures. This ranges from highly reflective mirror finishes through to textured or brushed finishes. Reconditioning your sink may return it to its original condition; however it will not make it shinier than its original state.

If the sink has suffered "pitting" or corrosion of the base material you may not be able to totally remove or restore these areas. Pitting is caused from concentrated exposure to harmful chemicals or iron. You can however treat these areas to prevent further corrosion.

The following process explains how to renew your stainless steel sink. This procedure will take approximately 15 minutes.

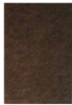
- 1 Wash**
Wash the sink with warm water and your normal dishwashing liquid to remove loose dirt and grit. Dry the sink with paper towel.
- 2 Buffing**
Apply 5-10ml of polishing cream (1 or 2 teaspoons) to each bowl and drainer area. Using paper towel and reasonable pressure, rub the cream into the sink surface in a circular motion. Ensure you cover all areas of the sink, and give special attention to areas that may have discoloured. You will notice a black residue on the paper towel. This is the chrome oxide layer being removed from the stainless steel. A new layer will form quickly.
- 3 Cleaning**
Remove the polishing cream with clean dry paper towel using a circular motion. Remove any remaining dried polishing cream with a wet cloth. Rinse the sink to remove all residues and then dry with paper towel.
- 4 Spotting**
Inspect the surface of the sink. If any spots remain you should use the nylon scouring pad and rub these with some polishing cream in the SAME DIRECTION as the stainless steel grain. Clean with warm water
- 5 Pitting Corrosion**
Pitting corrosion occurs through prolonged exposure to iron particles or harsh chemicals. If the sink is cleaned with water after each use, and iron/steel objects aren't allowed to sit on the sink for extended periods pitting corrosion will not occur. To remove pitting you will need to use the scotchbrite scouring pad and rub deeply to remove as much material as possible. Repeat steps 2 and 3: buffing and cleaning.
Always rub in the SAME DIRECTION as the stainless steel grain.
- 6 Oil Conditioning**
Ensure the sink is clean and dry. Apply a layer of conditioning oil to the sink using paper towel. Rub vigorously onto all areas of the sink and allow standing for several minutes. Wipe the oil residue from the sink using fresh paper towel. Some black residue may appear on the paper towel. This is the remnant of the previous chrome oxide layer. Finally, wipe the sink with a cloth and warm water.
- 7 Regular Maintenance**
You should wipe the sink with clean water and cloth on a daily basis. On a weekly basis a quick application of conditioning oil should be applied. This will ensure your sink remains clean and free of spotting or discolouration.



Polishing Cream



Conditioning Oil



Scotchbrite Pad



Nylon Scouring Pad



Paper Towel



1 - Wash



2 - Buffing



3 - Cleaning



- Spotting



5 - Pitting Corrosion



6 - Oil Conditioning



7 - Regular Maintenance