

STAINLESS STEEL - STAINING AND MAINTENANCE

Stainless steel may become stained or discoloured over time, impairing the overall look. This brown discolouration – “Tea Staining” - has been mainly identified in coastal areas.

Tea staining is a cosmetic discolouration of the surface of stainless steel by corrosion, which occurs most commonly near coastal locations. However, wind exposure, pollution levels, local sheltering and higher temperatures can create inland environments where tea staining can occur.

Other causes of staining (not tea staining) include carbon steel contamination, uncleaned welds and chemical fumes such as hydrochloric acid or bleach.

Stainless is not generally maintenance free. A light and regular wash is best to remove deposits (such as salt) which can cause corrosion. As a guide, stainless steel should be washed if the glass requires washing. For best results wash with warm soapy water, rinse well and wipe dry.

Stubborn stains - Avoid cleaning pastes with abrasive additions. Suitable cream cleansers are available with soft calcium carbonate additions, e.g. 'Jif', or with the addition of citric acid, e.g. Shiny Sinks. Do not use chloride solutions.

It is essential that abrasive cleaners or those containing chlorides or bleach are NOT used as they will damage the surface

