



INSTALLATION & HANDLING

Astor's electroplated finishes are soft decorative finishes which should be handled as such and preferably installed after other trades – such as paint, plasterboard & tiling. Wipe over with soft cloth and handle carefully.

- DO NOT use masking tape or any solvents.
- DO NOT: cut, drill, etch, weld electroplated finishes. *This is universal to all metal finishing including galvanizing, powder coating, anodizing as it leaves an exposed edge and can affect the finish and is especially important in wet areas.*
- DO NOT cut drill, etch or weld lacquered finishes.
- DO NOT leave in plastic packaging as will sweat causing accelerated & inconsistent tarnishing. *Storing of electroplated finishes is generally not appropriate or required, however if essential, ensure no moisture, dust, wear or weight. When installed on site before other trades, we recommend heavy blankets, foam packaging or boarded to protect from impact, concrete dust and scratching.*

CARE & MAINTENANCE

LACQUERED FINISHES

Astor apply a 2 pac clear automotive lacquer (gloss or matt) and should be treated as thus. Clean with a soft damp cloth or mild detergent. Avoid any harsh abrasives or thinners. Ensure any glues and/ or sealers used during installation are not in direct contact with brass or copper-plating under lacquers. We recommend checking the integrity of the lacquer on edges in particular.

UNLACQUERED (OILED/ WAXED) FINISHES

Where specified without a lacquer for a 'natural' (also referred to as "living" or "organic");

Aged Coppers & Brass finishes are treated with an oiled/ waxed finish. This finish is designed to age naturally as per solid brass or copper; tarnishing, dullening over time and gradually becoming darker. Immediately after aging, the patina is soft so must be handled with care.

Overtime the oil will absorb, or can be cleaned with thinners and the patina becomes more stable and more robust. To maintain this finish, apply any oil to a soft cloth and wipe over. Avoid any harsh abrasives, acids, alcohol & vinegars.

Brushed Coppers & Brass finishes, are treated with a Beeswax. This offers protection while handling, freight & installation. To prevent irregular staining, we recommend removal of dust, salt and pollution with mild detergent/ soaps and maintained with wax or oil to bring back lustre and consistency.

Pearl Black Nickel is finished with a light oil. This is a soft finish and as such wear & tear will remove the blackening and reveal the silver nickel underneath. Regular oiling (lightly oiled soft cloth) will even out the finish, disguising stains and spills. Left to its own devices, nickels will tarnish naturally becoming duller and result in yellower shades.

CHROME

Chrome-plating is the hardest & most scratch resistant finish however can still be affected by dust or salt if allowed to settle on the surface. Remove dust with soft cloth routinely & regularly. When necessary clean with mild soap & detergents with a soft cloth. Car polishes with a soft cloth are also a suitable cleaning method for all chrome finishes. Silicone based household cleaners are also suitable. Avoid any harsh abrasives and scotchbrites. With care, the finish of the metal item will be maintained for many years.