



## *Stainless Steel Care Sheet*

### Finish Note:

Each original handcrafted stainless steel item has an applied finish, typically satin-brushed or non-directional matte. Other specialty finishes are available as well and may alter the care instructions. Although these finishes may change slightly with use and cleaning over time, stainless is very durable and will last forever. As with all metal furnishings, your item can be professionally refinished at any time.

### Scratches:

While, all metal items will scratch, these are merely usage scratches and will fade and blend in over time, adding to the aged look. We recommend a professional attend to any scratches on this material.

### Care and Cleaning:

Stainless steel resists corrosion with a thin, transparent chromium oxide film that forms on the surface of the metal. When this film is penetrated, it will rapidly reform provided oxygen is present. If the surface becomes covered in dirt or grease, these can prevent oxygen from contacting the metal and corrosion will occur, resulting in pitting and discoloration. Keeping the surface of the metal clean is the best way to avoid this.

Stainless steel items will actually become more beautiful as they are used. Natural oils in our hands will impart a lustrous sheen. Without routine maintenance, however, these same oils will begin the process of cutting oxygen away from the metal. Keep the stainless steel finish even and bright by cleaning after each use. We recommend that this item be cleaned regularly and gently with a damp, microfiber cloth.

We do not recommend a cleaning solution be used with this material. If a cleaning solution must be used, we recommend nothing stronger than a Dawn-style unscented dish soap. When in doubt of a cleaner's strength, it is always preferable to dilute the cleaner in water rather than use too strong a solution. Always avoid particularly acidic or strong cleaners, as well as excessive force. Use finesse and patience rather than elbow-grease.

You will require a microfiber cloth, available at any major grocery or appliance store. These cloths help to avoid scratching the metal by providing as smooth a surface as possible.

Stainless steel items generally have a grain, which refers to the pattern of tiny grooves in the metal surface. This will be either satin-brushed (long parallel grooves across the item) or matte (circular or seemingly random swirls). To clean this item wipe a damp microfiber cloth along with the brushed grain or in broad, concentric circles for matte. After cleaning, dry the shelves thoroughly. Quickly wiping the metal dry will help to avoid water marks.#

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