

RAIL CARE KIT

Powder coated products and stainless steel cannot be regarded as completely maintenance free. Low maintenance depends largely on the proper cleaning immediately after installation and the proximity to saltwater.

The Atlantis Rail systems frameworks are made from either high quality, powder coated aluminum or stainless steel. Cable infill components are made of marine grade 316L stainless steel. Both materials hold up very well in harsh environments such as, oceanfront, poolside and commercial environments given the appropriate amount of care.

MAINTAINING YOUR RAILING SYSTEM

Depending on the specific location and environmental conditions, maintenance may be as infrequent as once or twice a year, or as frequent as every few months. Locations in close proximity to saltwater and pools will require the most attention and maintenance. Incidental saltwater and/or chlorine exposure will cause corrosion to any metal including aluminum and 316L stainless steel, if not reasonably maintained.

Cleaning

It is extremely important not to walk away from the installation until you thoroughly clean your new railing! Initial cleaning is necessary to remove all foreign matter from the powder coated and stainless steel surfaces including oil from tools and hands. Cleaning should only be done with a mild car wash soap. Beyond the initial cleaning, you should simply clean your railing system when it looks dirty. This will prevent dirt and dust particles containing Iron from adversely affecting the components and ensure the long-term integrity of your railing system.



- Fill the scrub brush soap dispenser with car wash soap
- Dip the scrub brush into a bucket of warm fresh water



- Scrub cable, fittings and framework (rails & posts) to clean off dirt, oils and contaminants



- Rinse clean with fresh water

Polish

If your railing system is continually exposed to harsh environmental conditions, you may observe “environmental buildup” where rails attach to posts and cable fittings attach to cable and/or posts. The typical color of environmental buildup ranges from light brown to a reddish tint due to a combination of salt and Iron. If buildup remains after cleaning with soap and water, these trouble areas will need to be spot cleaned using metal polish.



- Identify areas where environmental buildup remains
- Using the small scrub brush and a small amount of polish, scrub these areas completely



- Buff the polished area clean using the microfiber cloth and wipe off excess polish
- If buildup remains, repeat the polish process.

Protect

Atlantis Rail recommends the use of Lanox MX4 for an added layer of defense. This product is specially designed with anti-corrosion LANOLIN for long-term heavy-duty protection for residential/commercial use and where extreme environmental conditions prevail.



- Use Lanox MX4 aerosol spray to create a protective barrier
- Shake well before each use
- Spray desired amount directly on all stainless steel components



- Use microfiber cloth to buff areas and remove excess spray
- Re-apply as needed

GENERAL CARE



WARNING: DO NOT USE grill cleaners, household stainless steel cleaners, ceramic cleaners, Barkeepers Friend, Lacquer Thinner, acids, industrial cleaners, etc. DO NOT USE strong acid and chemical solutions (e.g. hydrochloric acid, muriatic acid, methyl ethyl ketone or “spirits of salts”) which are sometimes used to clean masonry, tiling and heavy paint cleanup of buildings, but they should never be used. It is safe to assume that anything you would not clean the aesthetic surfaces of a fine automobile with should not come in contact with your rail system.

Extra Care in Working (Construction) Environments

Working environments create aggressive conditions. Proper cleaning must be done immediately after installation of an Atlantis Rail product and should be repeated as often as needed if there is long exposure to working environments. Cleaning must be done immediately after exposure. Leaving a new installation without cleaning and then exposing it to a working environment will cause a high potential for corrosion. Be very mindful of the kind of work taking place around your railing systems. Chemicals to clean paint or epoxy are particularly damaging.

Work Site Cleaning Solutions, Beware!

Most simple household cleaning solutions, when used in accordance with their makers' instructions, are safe for incidental contact, but if used incorrectly, they can cause discoloration and damage the protective stainless steel or powder coating. Strong acid and chemical solutions (e.g. hydrochloric acid, muriatic acid, methyl ethyl ketone or “spirits of salts”) are sometimes used to clean masonry, tiling and heavy paint cleanup, but they should never be permitted to come into contact with your railing system. If contact of such a corrosive solution should happen, the solution must be removed immediately by copious water flushing and cleaning with a mild automobile (car wash) detergent. Anything containing a harsh acid or chemical coming in contact with stainless steel or powder coated material will potentially cause a corrosive reaction.

Use of Iron Tools or Cutting in Proximity of Stainless Steel

The use of bare Iron tools such as crescent wrenches, pliers, channel locks and Allen wrenches should be avoided. If such tools are used, the Iron deposits, though not visible, will rust and potentially cause the stainless steel in contact with it to rust. Use tools with chrome plating. Cutting anything with a power saw in the proximity of your railing will contaminate the area causing Iron particles to be airborne, rusting wherever they land. Grinding will also have the same effect. Any contaminated surfaces should be treated with copious water flushing and cleaning with a mild automobile (car wash) detergent.

Saltwater Environments

We recommend frequent railing washing in saltwater environments to prevent buildup. The main elements that cause environmental buildup are salt, dirt and Iron. The typical color of environmental buildup ranges from light brown to a reddish tint due to a combination of salt and Iron. The railing needs washing when buildup is visible. Proximity to saltwater is a major factor in how fast environmental deposits will buildup and how frequent washing will be needed. The closer you get to saltwater, the greater the frequency of washing! Just like maintenance cleaning for windows, cars, boats and powder coated metal components, washing may be required every 2-3 months to keep your railing system looking like new.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

A clean, freshly machined and polished stainless steel part will acquire a protective oxide layer from exposure to Oxygen in the atmosphere. Under ideal conditions, this protective oxide film completely covers all surfaces of the part and improves with exposure to the air (Oxygen). In actual practice, however, contaminants such as dirt and dust carry particles of Iron that may be transferred to the surface of the stainless steel parts. If not removed, these foreign particles can reduce effectiveness of the original protective oxide layer and cause surface discoloration if not occasionally washed off.

During the installation, a microscopic amount of free Iron may be worn off tools and transferred to the surface of the stainless steel parts. Under certain conditions, a thin coating of oxide (surface discoloration) may appear on the part. This is corrosion of the Iron deposits from tools or contaminants, and not corrosion of the stainless steel. If left untreated, the particles of Iron may become embedded and cause an attack on the part itself. If you see work going on adjacent to your property or see other hazards in the area such as big storms, you should clean the railing with freshwater and car wash soap.

PASSIVATING STAINLESS STEEL

To protect your investment, we offer a Passivation Kit for spot-treating rare cases of corrosion on stainless steel components (E0100-KP00).

CAUTION: Passivation fluid is NOT a cleaner. It is used to neutralize active corrosion and must be washed from all surfaces immediately after application using warm water and soap. If left untouched for a prolonged period, it will adversely affect the powder coat finish and discolor stainless steel surfaces.



Passivation Kit Includes:

- Spray Bottle of CitriSurf® 77 Plus Passivation Fluid, 6 oz.
- Pair of Nitrile Gloves
- Microfiber Polishing Cloth