

Care instructions for stainless-steel components

Stainless-steel fittings are intrinsically easy to clean, and impurities can usually be removed without a great deal of effort. This is due to the surface properties of stainless steel, which keep it looking shiny for a long time, even without coatings.

Stainless steel is naturally protected against external influences by a so-called <passive layer> which forms upon contact with oxygen.

The attractiveness and durability of stainless steel can be maintained in the long term with professional cleaning and care.

General Care instructions

The application-related advice provided here is in accordance with the information currently available to us. It is to be considered purely as non-binding advice, however, and does not release you from your duty to carry out your own tests. The application, use and processing of the products are beyond our control and therefore lie exclusively within your area of responsibility.

Outdoors, where the stainless steel is exposed to environmental influences, it will, of course, require more care than indoors, where maintenance is usually limited to the removal of fingerprints. Depending on where the stainless steel components are used, maintenance intervals of 6 to 12 months are optimal.

As a general rule, non-ferrous cleaning materials must be used for cleaning stainless steel fittings. Otherwise, the stainless-steel surface can be damaged. Always clean the entire surface of a component in order to achieve an even result with no blotches.

Tip: In the case of ground surfaces, always clean parallel to the direction of grinding.

Cleaning kit

A suitable cleaning kit consists of:

- A cloth or leather
- A sponge (attention: do not use steel wool, and use a scouring sponge only if there is excessive soiling or surface corrosion (rust film))
- A special stainless-steel cleaning agent or other suitable cleaning agent
- A bottle of demineralised water (prevents lime spots)

If you have any further questions regarding the cleaning and care of our products, please visit our website www.glutz.com or contact us directly +41 32 625 65 20.

The table gives you an overview of how to remove various contaminants from your Glutz stainless-steel products and thus prolong their service life.

| Type of Contamination | Cleaning / Removal |
|---|--|
| <p>Protective foil / Stickers If the stainless steel is covered with a protective foil or other types of sticker when new, these should be removed as soon as possible. Otherwise, they may bond to the stainless-steel surface.</p> | <p>Warm up the foil slightly using a hairdryer and then pull the foil off slowly and evenly. Any remaining adhesive residues on the surface can be gently removed with alcohol.</p> |
| <p>Lime / Mortar Especially during new construction or conversion work, stainless-steel components that have already been installed may be contaminated by lime or mortar, which then hardens on the surface.</p> | <p>The first step, in this case, is to dissolve the residue with phosphoric acid. Then rinse off with clean water and dry the surface to prevent lime spots from forming. Attention: never use cement film remover or diluted hydrochloric acid, as these will damage the stainless-steel surface.</p> |
| <p>Iron particles When steel is ground or cut, iron particles form which can settle on the surface of the stainless steel. These must be removed immediately, since they may cause corrosion.</p> | <p>We recommend using ferrite-free cleaning sponges or special cleaning agents. However, these only help if the stainless-steel surface has not been damaged already. If there are already signs of corrosion, a specialist must be consulted with regard to treatment.</p> |
| <p>Fingerprints These cannot be avoided, but can be quickly removed without a trace.</p> | <p>Clean the affected areas with detergent or a special cleaning agent.</p> |
| <p>Stubborn dirt If the dirt cannot be removed simply by wiping, then special treatment is required.</p> | <p>In most cases, a simple household cleaning cream is sufficient, but make sure that it does not contain abrasive particles. Then rinse the surface with clean water and dry it to avoid lime residues.</p> |
| <p>Oil and grease Oily and greasy soiling</p> | <p>Clean with alcohol or acetone several times, using a clean cloth each time, and then remove the cleaner without leaving any residue.</p> |
| <p>Paint residues During construction or renovation work, paint may be splashed onto the stainless-steel surface.</p> | <p>Cleaning agents with alkaline or solvent-based components remove paint residues easily and without residues.</p> |
| <p>Rust corrosion Deposits and impurities attached to the stainless steel, usually associated with insufficient cleaning or with damage to the surface, can result in the formation of rust or corrosion, even on stainless steel. This is not a material defect and therefore not a valid reason for complaint!</p> | <p>Rust should be removed, by means of vigorous rubbing, as soon as it is detected. Otherwise, it can <eat into> the stainless steel. The areas affected by corrosion can be treated (by a specialist company) by pickling in order to restore the protective effect.</p> |

In order to enjoy your Glutz products for as long as possible, we recommend regular cleaning of the stainless-steel components with a commercially available stainless-steel cleaner.