

## TECNI Stainless Steel Care and Maintenance

To keep stainless steel in pristine condition a level of cleaning and maintenance is required. We recommend regular cleaning to stainless steel surfaces that are exposed to potentially polluted or corrosive environments. Regular cleaning can help remove discoloration, oil and grease marks, fingerprints and tea staining as well as a whole host of other contaminants.

### Coastal Environments

Due to its harsh environment with high levels of airborne salt and high wind, coastal environments can be particularly damaging to stainless steel surfaces. *(If the stainless steel is within 5 kilometers (3 miles) of a coastline we would regard that as being a coastal environment.)* Corrosion is most severe within splash and tidal zones where a frequent wetting and drying cycle results in high chloride and oxygen content. Coastal environments may cause stainless steel to stain or discolour. This discolouration of the steel (also known as tea staining) does not affect the structural integrity of the steel however could affect the appearance if left untreated. To combat this, regular polishing will help with the maintenance of good appearance over a sustained period.



### Swimming Pools

The warm, humid atmosphere of indoor swimming pools paired with the fact that the stainless steel is continually being washed by pool water can really increase the speed of corrosion so we strongly advise on-going maintenance when near swimming pools to help prevent any long lasting damage. The material should be washed on a regular basis with clean fresh water to remove the condensed chlorinated moisture droplets.

### Dirt and Grease

Dirt and Grease can build up over time if not looked after properly. Remove fingerprints, dirt and grease using soap or detergent and warm water. Do not use abrasive cleaners on stainless steel and do not use chlorine bleach or any product containing chloride. Ensure you do this regularly to maintain a polished finish. Maintaining a regular cleaning schedule can help protect the stainless steel surface for many years.

- X Do not use abrasive cleaners on stainless steel and do not use chlorine bleach or any product containing chloride.**
- X Never use metal brushes, steel wool or other abrasive tools. These cleaning tools will scratch the surface and leave the stainless steel finish susceptible to rust.**
- X Never use a cleaning towel or sponge that is not clean. Leftover debris from other jobs can stain, scratch and discolour stainless steel**