



*Hardware merchants & makers of hardy, humble & useful objects.  
Embracing the nostalgia of heritage trades and materials.  
Iron, brass, cane, leather, canvas & timber.*

# PRODUCT CARE GUIDE

## TECHNICAL NUTRIENTS

There is a rich history of trades that craft with resources like metal and age-old approaches of material recovery and resourcefulness. We value these histories and recognise metals as technical nutrients. It is our goal to better understand how we can responsibly participate in a closed loop cycle - be it from the initial production of using recycled metals right down to how the end user can dispose of the product so they are not sent to landfill but can be recovered & reused. It is a journey we are still on, but we are committed to identifying the steps both we and our customers can take towards responsible manufacturing and consumption.

The Society inc hardware & selection of homegoods are manufactured in India. A vibrant country of handicraft which still displays ancient values and an approach to resource recovery that is thoughtful & considered, an attitude derived from its uninterrupted craft lineage and from necessity. The principles of reusing a stable material like brass over & over have been practiced for centuries in India, Rome, Turkey & around the globe. Through history these ideals were manifested by heritage trades & during periods of resource scarcity.



Our mission is to bring back the time when the pieces you bought felt as if someone had whittled them or hammered their form to perfection with their own hands. Hardware and homegoods that should be displayed & loved, not hidden. So much so that our hope is you will never wish to throw them away.

## BRASS

The allure of brass as a sea worthy & long lasting material is fitting for products within The Society inc range designed to be well used & well loved much like an heirloom. Our brass products are raw or aged and protected with a satin gloss lacquer.

Solid brass products are suitable to be used in wet & humid environments.

Using brass products in wet environments or outdoors you will notice the possibility that the finishing sealer wears down and the brass will begin to patina & change. We embrace the changing surface of this wonderful & time honoured metal.

## IRON

Strong, malleable, adaptable & useful. Iron products were a hero in the toolkit of heritage trades. Blackened iron has been treated with a black oxidised finish for corrosive resistance and a beautiful deep rich black lustre. Our iron products are then sealed with a satin or matte gloss lacquer finish for further protection.

Due to the inherent properties of iron, even once lacquered, when exposed to the air, salt & varied climates, oxidation & patina will occur over time.

A rub down of your product with Penetrol on a rag will help to maintain the black colouration and lustre as well as treat any surface rust that may appear over time particularly in salty environments.



*The character of metal as it gets worked, changed and aged is beautiful and worth celebrating.*



## PLATED METALS

Our plated metal products are raw or aged and protected with a satin gloss lacquer. Most of our plated products have an iron base metal unless otherwise noted in the product description.

The plated layer & sealer will provide corrosive resistance. We do not recommend using plated items in fully wet areas or outdoors. For our plated knocker styles, undercover out of rain exposure is best.





## CANE

Our cane products are all wrapped using natural untreated cane. Wrapped and woven over iron or brass, the cane will age and patina. Strong and inherently durable and all that is needed is regular handling to keep it dust free and ageing into itself beautifully. Keep nourished by applying a coat of linseed oil. We do not recommend using cane in fully wet areas or exposing it to prolonged contact with wet or damp items.

## TIMBER

For routine maintenance of timber products: The ripened seed of the flax plant in the form of linseed oil has been synonymous with timber throughout history. We often look to the past for natural, less harmful options when maintenance is required & linseed oil is still a diamond in the rough. It does not sit on the surface like synthetic varnishes but penetrates into the timber. It will leave a shiny but not gloss surface and will be penetrable to water.

*We make products that get scuffed and marked, they patina, they hold the history of their lifespan on their surfaces.*



## CANVAS

A sprinkle of bulldust, ocean sand or fairy dust might become imbedded over time & we don't like to wash away the magic! We understand life happens & sometimes overrides the romance. Spot clean with a mild soapy water when required if an unwanted stain occurs. If extra protection is required in areas of high humidity we recommend an eco non-toxic fabric protector. For best results add your surface treatments to fabric or canvas when you first receive your products.



## LEATHER

For normal cleaning and removing dust, wipe with a very soft dry cloth. In case of spots, wipe with a soft dry cloth that has been well wrung in boiled, then cooled clean water. A water based leather cleaner or very mild, diluted pure white soap flakes may be used and followed up with a leather conditioner if desired. Let them dry naturally. If unsure we recommend a spot test first.



## POWDER-COATING

Powder-coating is a durable surface that should require minimal maintenance. Use a soft dry cloth to clean powder coated surfaces. Do not use abrasive cleaning agents or detergents as this may damage the surface or cause chipping. Pre-drilling and hand install with a screw driver is recommended. If the product is dropped or

damaged over time and a chip does occur, Penetrol can be used as a surface treatment to treat exposed iron bases and avoid further damage. In harsh or salty environments items may eventually erode. Routine wiping and maintenance is advised to stop acid or salty build ups on the surface of your product if it is to be used in a harsh environment.



## MARBLE & STONE

Marble is a beautiful, long-lasting natural material that ages gracefully. As with most natural materials, marble will NOT remain immaculate forever & will patina and gain character.

Our marble & stone sinks are honed for a smooth-to-touch matte finish. Honed marble & stone is susceptible to water stains and marks, so if you are after an impermeable perfect finish, marble may not be the material for you.

To minimise staining and marking, do not leave water pooling for long periods of time, avoid lemon, alcohol and any acid or chemical liquids from direct contact. Use a damp soft cloth for cleaning & avoid abrasive pads & cleaning agents.

Our Jaisalmer stone sinks are an Indian sandstone which wears and ages well with proper care. We suggest cleaning the rough outside with water and a soft bristled brush, and using a light non-abrasive soap for the inside.

*Whether your style is minimal or maximalist, beach house or country - we hope to inspire for every peculiarity.*



## COMPLIMENTARY SCREWS

We provide screws that match hardware styles where appropriate to truly make them sing and complete the look! Screws aren't self-tappers so we recommend pre-drilling a pilot hole when installing. We strongly recommend visiting your local hardware store for professional advice & specific requirements. For knobs and pulls that are fitted with a thread, we suggest trimming to length required before installing.

