

General Installation and Maintenance for Cast Iron Baths



Arroll[®]

www.arroll.co.uk

Installation Instructions.

Cast Iron bathtubs are very heavy items to handle. There is a risk of personal injury or product damage if not handled correctly & safely. please ensure that help & assistance is at hand when handling this product.

Painted baths incur minor damage during transport and installation, this is easily fixed by applying touch up paints available on request and is not regarded as a manufacturing fault or reason for return.

To ensure that this product is installed correctly, please read the following instructions very carefully before installation begins.

1. We recommend that you do not step into the tub or place tools or other items inside the bathtub as the enamel can be severely scratched & damaged.
2. We strongly advise that the installation is carried out by a qualified installer & that your installation complies to any local/national plumbing & building codes.
3. Tools & materials required for installation:
 - Adjustable wrench
 - Cardboard sheet or cover (for protection to the inside surface during installation)
 - A Plumber's level.

NOTE: Freestanding Baths must be positioned with a minimum of 50mm gap between the bath and any wall surface to allow for any movement of the bath that may be caused from entering or exiting the bath.

Bathtubs with feet

Your bath should arrive with the feet pre fitted unless otherwise requested in writing. If you need to remove the feet, please follow instructions below:

1. Turn the bathtub upside down on a cardboard sheet to avoid any damage to the enamelled surface, this operation needs to be done in a very careful manner and do not use the feet as holding grips.

NOTE: Cast Iron Baths are VERY HEAVY and a minimum of 2 people are required to lift and manoeuvre the bath

2. Carefully remove bolts and washers and remove the feet.

NOTE: To ensure feet are reinstalled in their original locations, it is good practice to mark the feet along with the bath prior to removing the feet.

3. Reverse this process when reattaching the feet. The feet lugs have slots that allow you to adjust the feet to the best position. (please note that if the feet are secure it is not imperative that all points of the foot fan or lug are touching the bathtub). Depending on the model, there may be a gap of approximately 5mm around the fan.
4. Carefully and without using the feet as hand grips Return the bath to its upright position
5. Place a level on top of the bathtub to ensure it is level. This should minimise pooling and helps to reduce damage to the enamel.

Primer Painted Bathtub Exterior

The exterior surface of Arroll bathtubs is coated with a smooth Primer. THIS PRIMER IS NOT MEANT TO BE THE FINISHED SURFACE. The primer surface may have some small minor blemishes, which can be easily rectified when you apply the final rub down and paint coating to suit your personal taste.

Bespoke Factory Painted baths

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Additional Product information

The process and application of enamelling involves the manually dusting of enamel powder over the cast iron bath whilst it is red hot. This method can produce features such as a thin line around the edge of the roll, subtle ripples in the bath surface, small dimples & miniscule black specs. This is quite normal & will not affect the performance of your bath throughout its lifetime.

Taking Care of Arroll cast iron baths

The lining of your bath will be coated with vitreous enamel. Enamel has many of the qualities of glass; it is tough and easy to clean, but even glass can be scratched with abrasive materials. This document outlines how you go about cleaning your cast iron bath to protect your investment and keep it looking at its best.

Firstly - What NOT to use

By using the wrong products, you will degrade the surface, and maybe damage it permanently, so let's begin by listing what NOT to use.

Abrasive cleaners such as scouring powders and steel wool should be avoided, these harsh products can damage the finish. Over time damaged enamel collects dirt, grime and hard-water deposits, all of which compound the problem. Deep scratches may eventually require refinishing – so avoid scuffing your bath as you clean it.

It is also unwise to use acidic products on the enamel surface of a Cast Iron Bath. Using products ranging from vinegar to specialised bathroom cleaning products – which some people would use for an acrylic bath – wear away the enamel. This degradation of the lining makes it feel unpleasant to the touch and often discolours it.

What to Use

It is best practice to quickly clean and dry the bath down after bathing. Tackling soap build up with a damp cloth while the bath is still warm stops soap-ring becoming a problem.

Stop your taps dripping and remove your plug which will prevent staining from persistent dripping or standing water. A dripping tap will cause discoloration of your bath and a buildup of limescale.

Drying the bath after use will improve the chances of it staying mould and mildew free in the long term.

Cleaning Options

- One good way to clean your cast iron bath without doing any harm to the enamel surface is to fill the bath with warm water and then add washing up liquid to it; then allow the bath to soak in the diluted mixture for 30 minutes. This type of product will not corrode the inner surface of the bath nor should it stain as some cleaning products might. Empty the bath and use a dry, nonabrasive cloth to wipe it down, leaving it dry and clean.
- Another thing to consider is a Magic Dirt Eraser. Available online or from most supermarkets these just use water and elbow grease and so do very little damage to the tub. A great environmentally friendly option.

Official Advice from the VEA

We would advise using The VEA's (Vitreous Enamel Association) list of approved cleaners which can be found on their website - <http://www.vea.org.uk> . They also offer the following advice for stubborn stains:

- Take a clean wine bottle cork and apply the Approved Vitreous Enamel Cleaner to the bit you want to clean and use the end of the cork to rub the area in a rotary motion. This will provide very good localised cleaning and it doesn't wear out your fingers.

<http://www.vea.org.uk/limescale-removal/>

However you clean your bath we hope you enjoy owning the fabulous lifestyle statement that is a cast iron bath.