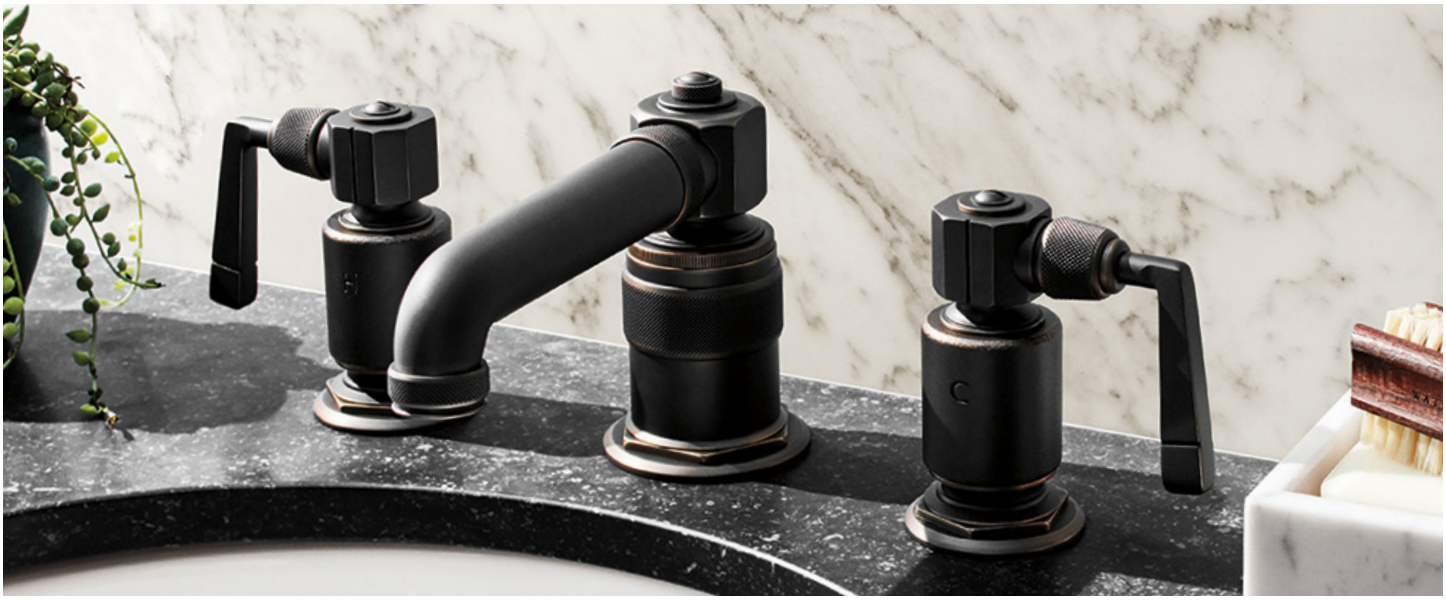
Waterworks Metal Finishes

PROCESS & CRAFTSMANSHIP



OVERVIEW

Waterworks offers a wide range of metal finishes. With a solid brass foundation, these lustrous and unique finishes are created using proprietary processes applied to fittings, wall-mounted accessories, hardware, finishing details and select washstands and furnishings. Whether a client is looking for the color and warmth of aged metal, a cool metallic hue with classic appeal, or the refined radiance of a statement piece, the right finish transforms and elevates a space.

PROCESS

Waterworks metal finishes come to life through one or a combination of proprietary processes. Skilled craftsmanship is combined with science and technology to create a beautiful finish that will evolve over time.

MECHANICAL PROCESS (M)

A physical process used to alter or enhance surface of a metal finish. This process may include abrading, brushing or sandblasting.

ELECTROPLATING PROCESS (E)

A chemical process in which electrical current is passed through a liquid containing ions, resulting in layers of a selected metal being bonded to the surface of another metal.

OXIDATION PROCESS (O)

A chemical process in which a substrate reacts with oxygen molecules to create a chemical change visible to the eye (i.e. color change).

COATING PROCESS (C)

A physical process to coat surface of a metal finish. This process may include painting or powdercoating.

WATERWORKS METAL FINISHES

BRASS
Brass substrate polished to a mirror finish. The keystone of all Waterworks metal finishes.

BURNISHED BRASS (M)
Reference Brass for base. Mechanical brush strokes are used to abrade brass surface to create non-mirror finish. Subtle brush lines with non-directional pattern.

VINTAGE BRASS (O) (M)
Reference Brass for base. Fine sandblast process is used to create dull surface, then oxidized to brown color. Mechanical brushing with subtle, non-directional brush lines reveals highlights on outside edges.

DARK BRASS (M) (O)
Reference Brass for base. Mechanical sandblast to satin finish, then oxidized to dark brown color.

NICKEL (E)
Reference Brass for base. Electroplated with Nickel to a mirror finish.

BURNISHED NICKEL (E) (M)
Reference Nickel for base. Finer level of mechanical brush strokes than used in Matte Nickel to create semi-mirror finish. Subtle brush lines with non-directional pattern.

MATTE NICKEL (E) (M)
Reference Nickel for base. Mechanical brush strokes are used to abrade Nickel plating to remove shine and create matte, non-mirror finish. Visible brush lines with directional pattern.

DARK NICKEL (E) (M)
Reference Nickel for base. Electroplated to black color. Mechanical brushing removes electroplating to reveal a Dark Nickel undertone. Visible brush lines with directional pattern.

CHROME (E)
Reference Nickel for base. Electroplated with Chrome to a mirror finish.

COPPER (E)
Reference Brass for base. Electroplated with Copper to a mirror finish.

GOLD (E)
Reference Nickel for base. Electroplated with 24-karat gold to a mirror finish.

MATTE GOLD (E) (M)
Reference Gold for base. Mechanical brushing abrades Gold plating to remove shine and create matte, non-mirror finish. Visible brush lines with directional pattern.

MATTE BLACK (O) (C)
Reference Brass for base. Oxidized, then coated with paint or powdercoat color to a matte finish.

WATERWORKS METAL FINISHES


Brass


Burnished Brass


Vintage Brass


Dark Brass


Nickel


Burnished Nickel


Matte Nickel


Dark Nickel


Chrome


Copper


Gold


Matte Gold


Matte Black*

*Exclusive to Flyte & Select Universal Products

FINISH PROCESS REFERENCE CHART

FINISH	MECHANICAL	ELECTROPLATE	OXIDATION	COATING
Brass				
Burnished Brass*	X			
Vintage Brass	X		X	
Dark Brass	X		X	
Nickel*		X		
Burnished Nickel	X	X		
Matte Nickel*	X	X		
Dark Nickel	X	X		
Chrome		X		
Copper		X		
Gold		X		
Matte Gold	X	X		
Matte Black			X	X

*Select products in the Atmos Steam Collection are offered exclusively in Nickel PVD, Burnished Brass PVD and Matte Nickel PVD. These PVD finishes are visually identical to their respective standard Waterworks finishes of the same name.

LIVING FINISHES

A living finish is a non-lacquered finish that will evolve, or 'patina' over time. Developed over months and years of exposure to elements, patina is actually considered tarnish, and contains various compounds, including oxides, carbonates and sulfates that form on the surface of the metal.

Patina is the result of organic change, its rate will depend on the environment in which the product resides as well as wear resulting from regular use. Every environment is different and factors include, but are not limited to:

- Humidity
- Airborne salinity
- Pollutants
- Oxygen content
- Cleaning products and various chemicals
- Water hardness

Patina will develop faster in coastal environments than in dry or inland environments.

One must expect these finishes will have a range of color and texture over time and each product will have its own "character". These finishes are expected to age gracefully in their natural state, bringing more character and uniqueness to each piece, while in no manner affecting the integrity of the metal.

Understanding the patina process is paramount to managing expectations when selecting a living finish for one's project. The evolving changes, most often the result of uncontrollable environmental factors, are accepted by some and challenging for others.

DURABILITY

Waterworks metal finishes are living, making them more susceptible to wear and change over time. Clients should take durability into account relative to geographic location, household use or aesthetic preference when selecting a finish for their home or project.

PVD finishes are incredibly durable, resistant to many household chemicals and metallic corrosion, as a result, they will not patina.

CARE & CLEANING

Climate or environmental conditions will impact the rate at which a living finish evolves over time. This process can be either accelerated or prolonged with targeted care and cleaning. Please refer to the Waterworks Care and Cleaning Document for General Cleaning Guidelines and finish-specific instructions.

METAL FINISH PROCESS ORGANIZATIONAL DIAGRAM