

# MAINTENANCE TIPS

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All items will experience wear and tear through use. In addition, the surfaces may become damaged through use. The degree of wear and/or use partially depends on the product's frequency of use and its environment. This damage is mostly the result of everyday use, such as scratches to the surface caused by keys or rings.

The exterior environment can also affect a product's surface, such as coastal or industrial areas, or locations near a railway or motorway. Even your personal care products can affect a product's surface. Cleansing products and perspiration also affect the surface treatment.

Below you will find brief explanations of and maintenance tips for each type for products.

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## STAINLESS-STEEL PRODUCTS

FORMANI® stainless-steel products are made from:

A.I.S.I 304 (DIN W. No.1.4301, alloyed with approximately 17% chrome and 8% nickel).

Surface corrosion will appear in time because of ordinary use. This is not corrosion of the material itself, but rather a deposit on the surface. Regular maintenance will prevent this deposit from forming. Wiping the product down once a week with a moist cloth will suffice. If brushed stainless steel has been neglected, lightly rubbing the surface in the direction of the brushing using very fine wet waterproof sandpaper can help.

Stubborn corrosion deposits can usually be removed (depending on the circumstances in which the fittings are used) with a special anti-corrosion product. FORMANI® has put together a special stainless steel maintenance kit that can be ordered using the following information:

INNO Stainless Steel Rust treatment kit: item number 2101Z017XXX0.

The set includes:

- Innoprotect surface rust remover 20 ml
- Innoprotect stainless steel care
- 1 set of gloves (for use with Innosoft)
- 1 special sponge (for use with Innosoft)

To remove surface rust, apply some Innosoft to the special sponge. Rub the sponge lightly on the fittings in a circular motion in the direction of the brushing. We recommend that you wear the gloves included in the kit when applying the Innosoft.

Innosoft is a special deep-cleaning product that easily removes oxidation and rust from stainless steel. Innosoft is not acid-based and so does not eat into the metal. Innosoft is gentle on metal but hard on oxidation and dirt. It gets down into the pores of the stainless steel.

After using Innosoft and for daily maintenance purposes, we recommend you use Innoprotect, a neutral, mild stainless steel cleaner. In addition to removing the loosened oxidation, Innoprotect lays down a protective layer on the nano level to help prevent the formation of new corrosion. Regular applications of Innoprotect will help to prevent corrosion.

NB: Despite what is generally believed, stainless steel is not maintenance-free. Stainless steel products do require regular maintenance.

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## POWDER COATING (BLACK, WHITE, BRONZE)

FORMANI® products in black, white, and bronze are made from solid stainless steel with an A quality powder coating. The products can be cleaned using gentle soap.

Note: do not use aggressive cleaning products!

FORMANI® has a special varnish (available on request) to repair minor damage on various finishes.

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## CORIAN®

Invented and produced by DuPont, Corian® is a special material and a high-quality, solid plastic. Just like all other high-quality materials, Corian® looks its best when properly maintained.

Corian® is not self-cleaning, but you can easily preserve its original look. Although liquids cannot permeate the material, you should immediately clean the product with a damp cloth and gentle abrasive or conventional detergent (such as washing-up liquid) if you spill anything on it. Clean the product in circular motions. To clean tough stains, use a plastic scourer and a detergent or ammonia-based cleaning product for hard materials.

After cleaning the product, rinse several times with warm water and dry it off with a soft cloth.

If you see a slight colour difference, carry out the above treatment on the entire product.

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## WOOD PRODUCTS (EBONY AND OAK)

Because ebony naturally contains lighter and darker sections, the wood is given a dark stain to create an even colour.

We strongly advise against using our wood products outdoors (there is also no guarantee on damage arising from outdoor use).

We advise against using cleaning products or wet cloths to clean the product. FORMANI® recommends regularly maintaining the product with a dry cloth.

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## PVD MATT STAINLESS STEEL, PVD MATT GOLD, PVD METAL GUN, PVD BRIGHT COPPER

These products are made from stainless steel with a low Physical Vapour Deposition (PVD). The PVD gases are directly applied to the stainless-steel base. This PVD layer gives the product extra protection against oxidation and rust. Note: PVD treatment does not protect the product against surface rust. Surface rust consists of dirt particles which affix themselves to the material. The degree to which this is likely to occur is entirely dependent on the product's environment (for instance, there is a greater chance of surface rust forming when construction is going on nearby).

NB: Although PVD treatment makes a product more scratch-resistant, the door fitting is still a product intended to be used, and scratches can still occur with frequent or careless use. A product with a PVD finish is not guaranteed against scratches. And like other stainless steel finishes, PVD stainless steel is not maintenance-free, and regular maintenance is necessary.

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## MARBLE / CARRARA

Marble is by no means the hardest type of natural stone, which is why it easily absorbs liquids. This behaviour means that poorly maintained marble quickly develops stains. Marble is also likely to scratch and develop unsightly stains if it comes into contact with acidic substances.

You should clean marble with a mix of gentle soap or use one of the special products available at your local tile supplier.

Note: Do not clean marble with synthetic products. Do not wipe the handles with a soapy mixture, as these may cause the stone to yellow.

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## NICKEL-PLATED BRASS (SATIN OR BRIGHT NICKEL):

Satin or bright nickel-plated brass products have a relatively soft finish. This means that with frequent use or contact with sharp objects such as keys or jewellery, the nickel plating will wear. As a result, the brass underneath may become visible. Damage to the nickel plating cannot be repaired. Try to avoid contact with sharp objects as much as possible.

It must also be pointed out that products with a satin or bright nickel finish are not suitable for outdoor use. For outdoor use, FORMANI® recommends using products with a PVD finish.

To maintain brass products, use a soft damp cloth once a week to remove moisture and dirt. Do not use abrasives or other harsh cleaning products.

FORMANI® has a polishing compound available which is suitable for use on nickel, brass, and PVD satin or bright nickel. This polishing compound cleans very dirty surfaces and gives the product an extra protective layer.

Polishing compound 15 ml: item number 2101Z009XXXX0.

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## UNVARNISHED BRASS

Brass is an alloy of copper and zinc. After a period of time, oxidation causes the brass to become duller and darker. This is often a wanted effect, such as in renovation projects, as it gives character. However, copper polish should be used if you want to retain the product's shine. FORMANI® has a special polishing compound to treat high oxidation.

Polishing compound 15 ml: item number 2101Z009XXXX0.

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## PVD SATIN NICKEL and PVD BRIGHT NICKEL

Products in PVD satin and bright nickel are brass products with Physical Vapour Deposition (PVD), sometimes called a zirconium or titanium-based layer. This coating strengthens the finish of the product, helps keep it from losing colour, and gives it protection against the effects of weather and pollution. This makes products with this finish suitable for outdoor use.

To maintain products with a PVD finish, use a soft damp cloth once a week to remove moisture and dirt. Do not use abrasives or other harsh cleaning products.

FORMANI® has a polishing compound available which is suitable for use on nickel, brass, and PVD satin or bright nickel. This polishing compound cleans very dirty surfaces and gives the product an extra protective layer.

Polishing compound 15 ml: item number 2101Z009XXXX0.

NB: Although PVD treatment makes a product more scratch-resistant, the door fitting is still a product intended to be used, and scratches can still occur with frequent or careless use. A product with a PVD finish is not guaranteed against scratches. And like other stainless steel finishes, PVD stainless steel is not maintenance-free, and regular maintenance is necessary.

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## BAKELITE:

To maintain Bakelite, FORMANI® advises regularly dusting the product with a dry, soft cloth (terry cloth or flannel) and polishing it when necessary. Use a small brush such as a toothbrush to reach small corners.

Bakelite can be cleaned with warm water to which a small amount of washing-up liquid has been added. Edges can be polished using a soft brush.

Copper polish can be used for buffing out small scratches. If this does not work, try a car polish. However, since car polishes are generally more abrasive, they should be used with great care. If the product has become dull, use paraffin oil to give it a shine.

In order to give the Bakelite an extra layer of protection, wax it thoroughly using a silicone-free colourless furniture wax or antique wax.

FORMANI® has a 'polishing compound' for Bakelite.

This polishing compound cleans very dirty surfaces and gives the product an extra protective layer.

Polishing compound for Bakelite 15ml: item number 2101Z018XXXX0

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## LEATHER

As leather is a natural product, it may discolour when exposed to sunlight or sources of heat. Dry air may cause the product to dry out, in turn making it more susceptible to other damaging effects.

Regulate humidity with humidifiers – this helps to maintain the leather and creates a more comfortable living environment for you.

Be careful with chemicals or sharp objects: nails, keys, nail varnish, acetone, or aggressive cleaning products can cause irreparable damage.

Appropriate maintenance is crucial for natural products such as leather. The key to good maintenance is to ensure the grain of the leather is free of dust. Make sure to wipe the leather handles every week with a damp cotton cloth in order to remove dust particles as well as skin oil, which also affects the leather over time. You can also use a good cleaning product that has been specially designed for use on leather.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to call us on +31 (0)43 - 308 9000  
or by e-mail at [info@formani.com](mailto:info@formani.com)