



### STAINLESS STEEL PRODUCTS

Stainless steel, an alloy of iron that contains ten percent chromium, is a very resilient material used in a wide range of household and industrial products. It's resistant to [rust](#) and tarnish due to the chromium film on its surface. Not only is stainless steel used in household products, it's also used in wide variety of architectural structures on account of its strong resistance to corrosion that can be caused by changes in atmospheric conditions. What may appear to be rust is caused by iron particles on the surface of the stainless steel. Despite its name, stainless steel can, and does stain, and requires regular cleaning and maintenance.

The first thing to consider when you set out to clean stainless is *what not to do*. Some popular cleaning products will damage the finish on stainless steel, and even plain water can leave unsightly marks and spots if not used properly.

- DON'T use chlorine bleach or any product containing chloride.
- DON'T use oven cleaners.
- DON'T use [steel wool](#), steel brushes, or highly abrasive scrubbing pads—these can cause scratches or leave a residue of small particles that may rust.
- DON'T use abrasive cleansers on brushed stainless steel.
- DON'T clean a stainless steel surface unless it is cool to the touch.
- DON'T use gritty, dirty, or excessively hard water, as it can leave spots or brownish stains.