

# HARDWARE MAINTENANCE

## Natural Satin Hardware

Stainless steel hardware can begin to show rust spots or stains under certain conditions or if the surface chromium oxide layer is removed. There are a few potential everyday causes of this, but the solution for it is very simple.

Keep your hardware looking great with a few basic steps:

### SUPPLIES:

1. Warm water in a bucket.
2. "Bar Keepers Friend" cream cleanser. We recommend this product specifically because it contains Oxlylic Acid which help clean and re-passivate the surface of the stainless to prevent rust from forming again.
3. A mildly abrasive scouring pad and sponge combo. We recommend "Scotchbrite – Green" as we have used this and found it worked well. Do not use anything metallic as it will embed in the surface and cause further rust issues.

### PROCEDURE:

1. Remove hardware from your gate or door.
2. Use warm water and "Bar Keepers Friend" along with the scouring pad to gently scrub the soiled surface of the stainless removing staining and rust spots. Gentle is key here – you are not wanting to sand the surface.
3. Rinse thoroughly with fresh warm water to remove all remaining cream and debris.
4. Dry and buff with a clean cotton cloth.
5. Leave the parts in a dry spot for a couple of days exposed to the air for 3 or 4 days to allow for the Oxlylic Acid re-oxidation (or re-passivation) process to occur before re-installing.



### WHEN?

Follow the above procedure any time your hardware is showing signs of staining or rust spots, typically as needed.