

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF STOVE-LACQUERED SURFACES

Expert and regular cleaning not only maintains the aesthetic and representative finish of stove-lacquered surfaces, but also preserves their value and service life by removing dirt and aggressive deposits that are not washed away by rainwater.

ANNUAL INSPECTION

The inspection of roofing and walls should take place at least once a year. This will depend on local environmental conditions.

CLEANING

Annual cleaning is recommended. The surfaces should be cleaned either manually using a soft brush or by means of a high-pressure cleaner (max. 50 bar) with clean water. If necessary, a mild cleaning agent (pH 6-7) may be added, up to max. 10%. Cleaning should take place from top to bottom. After cleaning, rinse with clean water to remove any cleaning agent residue. Generally, we recommend trying out the cleaning agent on an unobtrusive part of the object to be cleaned to check whether the surface appearance is affected.

Do not clean surfaces heated by the sun (>40 celcius) - the quick drying process may cause blemishes!

CLEANING AGENTS

Form information such as a list of neutral cleaning agents for organically coated aluminum components or addresses of approved cleaning companies, please contact Gütegemeinschaftreinigung von Fassaden eV.(GRM), www.grm-online.de.

Please observe the manufacturer's cleaning and safety instructions!

NON-SUITABLE CLEANING AGENTS

Please do not use highly alkaline cleaning agents such as potassium hydroxide, sodium carbonate or caustic soda or any strong acid products or highly abrasive cleaning agents such as household cleaning products that corrode paint.

REMOVAL OF GRAFFITI

As a general rule, the following cleaning steps will enable you to remove graffiti from stove-lacquered, ALUCOLUX® fluorocarbon surfaces.

Preferably, a test should be carried out on a small area first:

1. Remove any coarse particles of dirt with water to prevent the surface from being scratched during the following cleaning steps. Then wipe the panels dry.

2. Apply solvents to the sprayed graffiti using cellulose wadding soaked in a solvent (for suitable solvents please see the list). The solvent is rubbed in until the sprayed graffiti has largely been dissolved and can no longer be recognized in its original appearance.

3. Remove the mixture of lacquer and solvent using dry, cellulose wadding. Renew the cellulose wadding if required.

4. Clean the surface again using clean, cellulose wadding moistened with small amount of solvent until any remaining lacquer has been removed.

5. The ALUCOLUX® coating then needs to regenerate for at least 24 hours, independent of the cleaning result reached. Owing to the absorption of solvent, the ALUCOLUX® coating is swollen and in this state it is sensitive to mechanical stress. The swelling is reversible and has no influence on the long-term stability of the lacquer coating.

6. If there is any remaining paint, steps 2-4 should be repeated, but not until the lacquered coating has regenerated.

GENERAL INFORMATION

After cleaning, traces or shaded parts of the former graffiti are possibly still visible on the ALUCOLUX® coating. This appearance is caused by organic dyes that can be in the spray paint and are slightly susceptible to migration. Therefore, cleaning should take place as soon as possible to prevent the spray paint from migrating. According to experience however, these dyes are only slightly light-fast; subsequently, the dye is susceptible to migration and is altered and decomposed by solar radiation, thus causing the shading effect to disappear.

Large areas of graffiti sometimes lead to producing considerable amounts of cellulose wadding containing residues of solvent and paint. Larger amounts have to be disposed of properly according to your local Waste Code.

ATTENTION:

- The recommended solvents are inflammable!
- Do not smoke under any circumstance near the solvents during use!
- Make sure to allow for good ventilation! Where the exchange of air is restricted, e.g. pedestrian subways, be aware that solvent vapors can accumulate.
- Danger of explosion!

Suitable solvents depending on the lacquer quality*)

- Ethanol (methylated spirits) for slight soiling
- Hexane (petroleum ether or white spirit)
- Methyl glycolic acid
- Graffiti Neumann GmbH, DEKONTAMINOL