

How To Take Care of Your Stainless Steel Products

Dear Customer,

Solidor and Karcher provide an exclusive range of high quality pull handles. Our products are manufactured from a high corrosion resistant chrome-nickel steel combination 1.4301. This high-grade steel is remarkably resistant to environmental influences. There are however certain extreme environmental impacts which might cause surface corrosion to all kinds of stainless steel. Therefore, we would like to inform you of some simple advice on how to take care of your Solidor Karcher stainless steel product so that the aesthetic appearance are not compromised.

The material

The stainless steel 1.4301 belongs to the group of stainless steel which is also said to be „rust-free stainless steel“. This collective term comprises of a multitude of different stainless steel grades, which are said to be resistant to rust and acid. Rust-resistant stainless steel grades owe their corrosion resistant properties to the chrome metal alloy. The alloying elements in stainless steel form a thin, transparent „passive layer“ on the surface. This „passive layer“ protects the surface from corrosion, even if the material is scratched or damaged, as it instantaneously reforms in the presence of oxygen from air or water (see image 1). However there are deposits, especially in the outside air, which can influence the corrosion resistance. These damages can be disposed by some routine maintenance and cleaning.

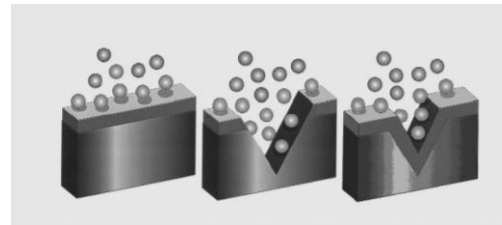


image 1: protective passive layer

Data source: Information rust-free stainless steel

Maintenance

For maintenance cleaning of Solidor Karcher stainless steel products, **DO NOT** use chloride-containing cleaners(especially those containing hydrochloric acid), hypochlorite bleaches, silver cleaners. We recommend to clean our stainless steel products only with Karcher cleaning products (EPS30 care cloth or EPS50 care spray), as these products are optimized to our products.

After installing the Solidor Karcher Design product, steel dust particle deposits, e.g. grinding or flex dust, created in industrial estates (e.g. construction site) must be removed immediately. Steel dust particles, which deposit on stainless steel, can locally break the self-healing „passive film“ of stainless steel resulting in pitting corrosion in spite of their normally good corrosion resistance (rust film). If these deposits are cleaned regularly with EPS50 or EPS30, the appearance and corrosion resistance of the product will be kept in good condition. Therefore, the Solidor Karcher stainless steel product should be cleaned with the enclosed care cloth to avoid accumulations of dirt and other deposits.

In the outside environment, all grades of stainless steel are exposed to a wide range of corrosions (e.g. marine atmospheres, industrial pollution, salt spray from road de-icing salt, atmospheric dirt and acid rain).

We recommend maintaining Solidor Karcher products every 3-6months with EPS30 or EPS50.