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Quickstart Directions for ProtectaClear® on Stainless Steel

4 Basic Steps

1. Clean and Polish if Necessary
2. Neutralize if Acid is Used
3. Solvent Wipe
4. Apply Coating

PREPARATION

NEW or CLEAN STAINLESS STEEL

Skip to step 3 below “Solvent wipe”. Test a small area first.

RUSTED or OXIDIZED STAINLESS STEEL

Stainless Steel to be coated must be completely clean and dry before coating. All coatings, silicone cleaners and oxides must be removed.

1. **Passivate or clean** rusty stainless steel to remove excess carbon. The Stainless Steel Rust Remover can be used to remove rust. **Synthetic** steel wool can also be used. Do not use regular steel wool to clean stainless – it will create more rust. Rusty stainless can also be wet sanded with very fine sandpaper (600–2000) grit depending on grain. Clean and sand **WITH** the grain.
2. **Neutralize.** THIS STEP CAN BE SKIPPED IF USING POLISHES THAT ARE NOT ACID BASED. MAAS does not contain acid, however many polishes do, check ingredient list for any type of acid. If you are unsure, complete this step. Use EZ Prep™ Cleaner & Neutralizer in a 1:4 solution with water OR 1 cup baking soda mixed with 1 gallon of water. Wash the metal with a cloth saturated with the neutralizing solution. Rinse with clean water. Dry with a clean cloth to prevent spotting.
3. **Solvent wipe** the metal with xylene or denatured alcohol to remove any traces of residue. This step needs to be done immediately before coating. Do NOT dilute or rinse the solvent. This step will ensure a completely clean and dry surface. **Skipping this step will result in poor adhesion of the coating.** (Solvent not included in kits – available at hardware stores)

The article to be coated must be scrupulously clean. Thorough preparation is very important. If you try to take shortcuts on preparation, you will likely not achieve the intended results and may need to remove the coating and start again. Everbrite Coatings can be removed with solvents like xylene.

APPLICATION OF COATING – See Page 2

HOW TO OPEN THE CAN

There is a metal insert in the 4 oz, Pint and Quart cans that seal the can for shipping. This needs to be removed & thrown away. The process is simple: Unscrew the cap. Hold the can to prevent the coating from spilling. Use a small screwdriver or ice-pick to pierce through the insert and pop it out. You may need to use a small hammer to tap the screwdriver to puncture the metal. Discard this piece.

APPLICATION OF COATING

Personal Protection: Nitrile or chemical resistant gloves are needed to protect your hands (*Rubber gloves will get sticky*). If spraying any coating, a NIOSH respirator is recommended.

Apply the coating to a completely dry surface. Warming the metal with heat gun or hair dryer will also help ensure metal is dry. Allow metal to cool before coating.

1. Pour the coating into clean, dry, metal or glass pan. *Do not use plastic as the solvent can melt plastic.*
DO NOT DILUTE COATING.
2. For application, use a clear-coat applicator: microfiber roller, natural-bristled paintbrush, clean dry lint-free white cloth, aerosol can or paint sprayer with a fine-finish tip. If using a cloth, fold it into a pad. Items can also be dipped into the coating and hung to dry.
3. Submerge applicator completely into the coating. Squeeze out the excess. Applicator should be saturated but not dripping. This is important- as dry areas in the applicator can cause streaks.
4. Apply the coating to the surface letting the applicator “glide” across the surface. Do not press hard. Applicator should glide smoothly. When it starts showing resistance, dip the applicator again. If you get drips, simply smooth them out before the coating starts to dry. Observe the coating while applying: if the coating separates or does not look completely smooth, **STOP** and re-clean the surface. Other chemicals present on the surface can cause separation and need to be removed completely. Silicone is a common coating agent which can be removed with mineral spirits (*available at hardware stores*). Once removed, complete Step 3 of the Preparation instructions (Solvent Wipe) again.
5. Let the coating dry completely. It will self-level as it dries. If you see an area you missed, let it dry and then coat over the missed area. Everbrite coatings are self-annealing; meaning the second coat will become part of the first coat. Wait at least one hour between coats or until the previous coat is **completely dry.**
6. **CURE TIME:** Under normal circumstances & with good ventilation, the coating will be fully cured after 4-5 days. The coating will be delicate until it is fully cured. You can shorten cure time by gently heating the coating AFTER it is dry to the touch. Dry, coated items placed in a low temperature oven (160°F -180°F) for 1 hour will be cured. Coating **MUST** be cured before prolonged contact with other surfaces, for example, packaging, allowing water to sit on the coated surface, immersing in water or filling fountains, etc. In most cases, dew or rain does not hurt the coating once it is dry to the touch.

Most applications require two coats of coating, however due to the porous nature of steel- raw, cold rolled, rusted or milled steel needs 3 to 4 coats. Warm the steel before coating to help ensure a completely dry surface. Do not apply the coating while the metal is hot.

AFTER CARE: Do NOT use solvent based cleaners or abrasives to clean coated metal. Do not use cleaners with “petroleum distillates”. Suggested cleaners: Windex, mild soap & water or similar mild cleaners.