

BOS

Best Of Steel

Powder coating cleaning and maintenance

Powder coating is one of the most durable and adaptable surface finishes available for metal frames. However, like all quality finishes, **it** needs a little care.



Cleaning:

Powder coating finishes can be treated like most other paints and benefit from regular cleaning. The frequency of cleaning depends on the environment in which the powder coating is used. For areas in normal urban environments, we recommend cleaning the frames once every 6 months.

A mild detergent or ideally a car shampoo applied with a cloth, sponge or bristle brush should be used (not an abrasive). Any dirt adhering to the powder coating should be removed. If this is not sufficient to remove stubborn soiling, the following products have been tested for use:

- Ajax Cream
- Liquid Gumption
- Flash (in water)
- Ajax Liquid (in water)
- Cutting compound ('T. Cut')

If solvents are needed to remove marks, a soft cloth dampened with white spirit may be used.

NEVER use solvents such as acetone, contact cleaners, thinners or Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK) to clean powder coating finishes. These solvents are very damaging to the powder coat and will soften and/or dissolve the surface of the coating, diminishing its shine and durability or removing the finish altogether.

Scratches:

Light scratches can be removed using a cutting compound i.e. 'T Cut'. Metallic finishes must not be compounded, as this would darken the colour of the paint.

Dull finish and colour fading:

If the finish has not been cleaned on a regular basis, it may dull. It is possible to restore the original appearance by using cutting compounds to remove the oxidized surface. A regular coating of wax, ideally a Silicon or Teflon wax, will prolong the oxidation process.

Paint protection:

The aesthetic life of powder coating finishes can be prolonged through polishing and waxing with good quality car shampoos and waxes.

If regular paint repair is anticipated, then silicon or Teflon waxes should be avoided, as silicon will repel dirt and any paint that may be applied at a later date.

Further colour processing with powder coating:

As powder coating layers can be damaged by mechanical influences during transport or the building phase, correction work may be necessary in some cases.

Isolated correction work can take place using a quick-drying NC combi-paint. In this case there are no reservations concerning the composite adhesion of the given paint to the powder coating.

For larger areas we recommend sanding the surface using 180 - 200 grain sandpaper and then thoroughly cleaning the area. Once the undercoat is completely dry, a 2 component epoxy primer can be applied.

Once the primer has hardened, a final coat of colour using a commercial paint can be applied. (PVC or acrylic paint can also be used if deemed suitable; a compatibility test with the seal is advisable). Please pay attention as to whether the coating is for indoor or outdoor use.

A further possibility is to apply a 2 component PUR coating paint directly onto the sanded and cleaned surface instead of using the 2 component epoxy primer. This paint must be applied using a roll-on or spray process. After hardening a high quality overall coating is achieved with long term durability.

If there are any further questions please contact us.