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Quickstart Directions for Everbrite™ on Aluminum

How to Refurbish Faded, Chalky, Stained Anodized Aluminum, Powder-Coated or Painted Aluminum

The amount of cleaning needed will depend on the surface condition. If the aluminum is only faded, it can be washed with EZ-Prep and water to remove any dirt and grime. For heavily oxidized, stained or pitted aluminum, additional scrubbing will be necessary. Make sure that the surface is clean and completely dry before application of the coating.

1. Wet the surface with water first.
2. Wash using diluted (1 oz. per gallon of water) EZ-Prep™ Concentrated Cleaner or a mild dish soap like Original Dawn® (with no lotion) and water. This process removes any residual oils and dust. Using a brush (a soft car wash type) or a clean microfiber towel is helpful.
3. **If heavy chalk, oxidation, stains or pitting is present: Use Prep Pads or other approved scrubber to scrub the surface to remove chalk and oxidation.** Use the no-scratch scrubber - Prep Pads are included in larger kits or available on our website. A blue or white ScotchBrite® pad or fine (000 or 0000) synthetic steel wool pad will also work. (Do not use regular steel wool – it can leave particles that will rust.)
4. Rinse with fresh water until the water sheets off of the metal. (Again, do not allow any soap mixture to dry on the surface).
5. If any oxidation remains, wipe with a clean, damp microfiber cloth.
6. **Solvent Wipe – Required for Bare Metal Surfaces. If the metal is painted or powder coated, skip this step.** 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 on bare metal can result in poor adhesion of the coating. (Solvent not included in kits – available at hardware stores) **Do NOT use Isopropyl Alcohol as it leaves a film.**

The article to be coated must be scrupulously clean. Thorough preparation is very important. How the metal looks wet is how it will look when coated. If the color is uneven when wet, it will be uneven when coated. Do not apply coating until the surface looks like you want it while it is wet.

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. The screw top will seal the can between uses.

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, eye protection and a NIOSH respirator is recommended.

Apply the coating to a completely clean & dry surface. Warming the metal with heat gun or hair dryer will help ensure metal is dry. Allow metal to cool before coating. Do not apply the coating if the metal is hot to the touch.

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, paint applicators, 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 just 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 (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.

CLEAN UP: Roller covers, sponge brushes and applicator pads are discarded after use, but they will last for a short while between coats if they are wrapped in aluminum foil. Brushes and spray tips are cleaned up with xylene or lacquer thinner.

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.

Please read and follow all directions and cautions on packaging & Material Safety Data Sheet.