



CARE AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Gutter Cleaning

All gutter systems require a minimum of annual cleaning and inspection. Leaves, twigs, or even balls can plug a gutter and render it ineffective. Extreme caution must be exercised when cleaning your seamless gutters. Many injuries occur every year due to falling off ladders and roofs when attempting to clean gutters.

If you do venture out to clean your gutters, make sure you clean out the downspouts as well as the gutters. Plugs that are not visible may still be causing a blockage and thus preventing the gutters from working properly and effectively if your home is in a wooded area or has a lot of pine trees nearby, the gutter will have to be cleaned more than once a year. Products such as gutter scoopers and home sprayers can help in the process.

Exterior Cleaning

The exterior of your gutters will in time show dirt, some discoloration, and “tiger stripping”. This can be eliminated by installing stain guards at the time of purchase. Information on this product can be found on our features page. Cleaning of the exterior of existing gutters is laid out for the following instructions.

Normal Conditions

The finish on our gutters, like any other colored or painted surface, is susceptible to chalking and some degree of color changing due to normal weather and, also, to dirt accumulation, depending on the atmosphere to which your home is subjected. Under normal conditions, objectionable superficial surface dirt can be removed by washing with a garden hose and a soft-bristled brush. Weathering occurs through exposure to sunlight or weather extremes. The factory-applied finish resists the associated problem of peeling, chipping, and blistering, in addition to the fading due to normal weathering for a reasonable period. The finish gradually releases microscopic particles of pigment in the form of a light powder”. This “controlled chalking” is the best way for exposed surface coating to weather, while providing a self-cleaning feature that helps eliminate loose surface dirt during normal rainfall.

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Unusual Conditions

In industrial areas where more thorough cleaning is necessary or for stains resulting from tree sap, insecticides, chimney frames, ETC. the finish should be washed with a sponge or soft bristled brush and a solution of detergent and water (1/3 cup tide per gallon of water, for example.) immediately rinse the surface thoroughly with a garden hose. Avoid vigorous rubbing as it can cause undesirable glossy areas over the finish. A soft-bristled brush equipped with an extension handle is great for reaching high areas. To minimize streaking, wash from bottom to top. In some spots, mildew may appear as a black spot in the accumulated dirt. Mildew may be removed with the following solution. The solution may be sprayed or sponged on or even applied with a soft-bristled brush and allowed to remain for 15 to 20 minutes and then rinsed with a hose. An adequate rinse should be assured to cleanse the finish and further dilute the solution so as not to harm shrubbery. It is also advised to test your solution or cleaner on an incomparable area before application to large areas.

Solution

1/3 cup detergent (Tide for example), 2/3 cups trisodium phosphate (Soilax for example), 1 qt. sodium hypochlorite, 5% solution (Clorox for example) and 3 qt water

*****CAUTION: GREATER CONCENTRATION MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE FINISH. DO NOT USE ABRASIVE OR SOLVENT-TYPE CLEANERS OR PAINT REMOVER. AVOID SKIN CONTACT OR GET SOLUTION IN THE EYES. FOLLOW CLEANING COMPOUNDS MANUFACTURAL INSTRUCTION*****

Caulking Compounds and Tar

Mineral sprays may be used, a reasonable amount, to remove caulking or tar from the finish. Rinse with water.

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