

Sink Care Instructions

ANTIQUÉ, BURNISHED, RUSTIC, & TEMPERED Copper Care Instructions

A copper finish is a "living finish" and never really stops changing in color. All of the finishes are included. To protect the finish of your Sierra Copper product, avoid using abrasive cleaners, coarse, acidic or alcohol based cleaners, steel wool, "Brillo" pads or wire brushes.

Clean with hot soapy water and scrub with a soft nylon brush or soft cloth.

You can greatly reduce this change with the use of Copper Sink Wax. Oil may also be used as a sealant and will darken and enrich the color of the copper. Avoid prolonged exposure to acidic foods, such as tomato sauce and citrus as they can cause copper to lighten. Oxidation of air and water will cause the lighter copper to darken. The more it is used, the faster the process. Allow water to air dry on sink for oxidation to occur. Changes in a kitchen sink can be expected with use, we call it the "seasoning process". The change is a part of the copper sink charm and uniqueness. Avoid the urge to use a chemical darkener unless the area that has lightened will not be exposed to water.

Antique, Rustic & Tempered patinas may lighten, especially in a kitchen sink. Should your sink lighten in areas, not to worry, it will darken back down naturally. The combination of air and water will oxidize the copper and it will begin to darken back. Do not towel dry your sink after use. Allow it to air dry to accelerate the oxidation process.

Burnished patina is a duo-toned effect where the higher area of the hammer mark has been burnished to show the raw shiny copper color, while the dimples of the hammer marks are the dark antique color. Since copper naturally darkens with age you may want to brighten areas back to their lighter polished look. Use a wet Brillo pad on a wet sink and lightly buff the area that you wish to lighten. This is the only time this type of product should be used in the sink and should only be used if you are looking for a burnished look.

Shiny copper is polished to a high shine. Shiny copper will tarnish and will require some maintenance to keep its brilliance. There are several copper cleaners available such as Wright's Copper Cream and many home remedies that require items that can be found in most pantries.

Satin Nickel finishes can and will begin to tarnish like silver does when introduced to air and the oils on our hands. Regular cleaning is important to maintain the appearance of your Satin Nickel finished product. Use simple dish soap and a clean towel to clean a satin nickel sink. A 50/50 water and white vinegar solution can also be used to remove grime and oils from the surface of the sink.

Avoid prolonged exposure to acidic foods, such as tomato sauce and citrus as they can cause satin nickel to discolor. Do not use any type of abrasive cleaners and cleaning tools such as scratch-pad sponges or cleaning agents, as they may tarnish or wear down the finish allowing the copper color to show through. Also avoid direct contact with hot pots, pans, etc.

Avoid bleach based cleaners, ammonia based cleaners and acid. If used, rinse the surface immediately to prevent corrosion. If corrosion occurs and a dark spot forms, try using a No.7 Chrome Polish which can be purchased at any hardware store.

After every use, it is very important to rinse thoroughly and wipe the surface dry following the grain; this will prevent water spots and mineral deposits. Use of a sink wax or oil can help maintain the finish longer between cleanings.