

HERE IS THE WINLOCK GUIDE TO KEEPING YOUR PAINTED HANDLES AND HINGES IN TOP CONDITION:

## **BASE MATERIAL**

Your painted handles and other furniture will probably be applied onto a zinc or aluminium base material, although painted finishes are also applied to steel or brass components. The good news is that provided the base material has been properly treated before the paint is applied then the adhesion and long term corrosion resistance achieved on all these materials is exceptionally good and the maintenance required is the same.

The bad news is that once a painted finish is scratched or damaged so that the base material is exposed then corrosion will commence and over time will spread. Aluminium and zinc base materials in particular may then suffer from bubbling and flaking paint and discolouration of the base material (white oxidisation), So try to keep the painted surface in good condition and in particular avoid scratching with keys or other sharp objects. With regular cleaning and no surface damage your painted finish should last 10 years or more in a normal environment.

## **CLEANING**

Painted finishes should be cleaned using only warm water with a small amount of domestic detergent added (less than 5%) and applied using a soft cloth or sponge. Once cleaned the furniture should then the dried thoroughly with a soft clean cloth. Do not use any abrasives cloths or cleaning agents on a painted surface.

## **CLEANING INTERVALS**

This will depend upon the location of the product and how often it is used. For example, the outside handle of front door will be open to the elements and used very frequently where as an upstairs window handle may be operated very infrequently.

In general cleaning should be done every 3 months for internal furniture but more frequently (every 1 or 2 months) for external furniture.

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