

STAINLESS STEEL FRAMES

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Henry Hall Designs uses AISI 316L Stainless Steel in the *Fusion* and *Natalia Sofa* collections, and AISI 304L in the *Flexy* and *Vintage* collection. Our metal frames are designed for outdoor use and are treated with a protective layer to provide a high level of resistance to rust. Starting in 2006, all of our frames are now "electropolished" - a treatment which adds further weather resistant qualities to the steel.

STAINLESS STEEL - Is it right for your environment?

Many people are surprised to learn that stainless steel can be stained! The "stainless" properties of steel vary greatly, which is why you would want to purchase only the best for outdoor use.

Stainless steel is a great choice for those looking for durable and stylish furniture that will also hold up to frequent cleanings. However, stainless steel has two enemies that should be noted: salt water (and even the air in salt water environments) and chlorine (such as splashes from a swimming pool.) Our electropolish treatment will help considerably with the damaging effects of either of these

enemies, however, regular washing of the frames are especially important in these environments. Before purchasing stainless steel, you should consider if you have had any past problems with stainless steel in your environment. If so, what type and grade of steel was it? Consideration of these factors is important for ease of maintenance.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

A regular cleaning of the stainless steel is required on a monthly basis to remove natural deposits (such as salt or dirt), which can damage the frame and lead to deterioration. Using fresh water only, spray the frames down thoroughly, at a high hose pressure. Dry with a cloth to avoid water spots. Remember the "softer" the water, the less likely there will be hard water deposits that can leave spots on the steel.

Fingerprints can be removed by using glass cleaner or household ammonia.

Sometimes, brownish spots will develop on stainless steel – from hard water deposits, or just from lack of cleaning. Most times, these spots are not embedded in the steel, but are the sign of oxides forming and should be cleaned off immediately before they actually lead to corrosion. Some suggestions for cleaning:

Baking soda mixed with liquid dish soap can make a good paste to gently rub on stains. Be sure to rinse the stainless steel surface thoroughly, and towel dry. If the stains still remain, you can try cleaning with vinegar. Remember to thoroughly rinse and towel dry.

Alternatively, use a non-abrasive pad, such as Scotchbrite Gentle Use® sponge pad, with natural dish washing detergent and water.

In all cases, industrial pressure washers, abrasive products, or cleaners with bleach or chlorine should never be used during cleaning.

Deep Cleaning:

There are many stainless steel cleaning products available should you want to get a "deep clean". Read the directions on any cleaner and test in an inconspicuous spot. Be sure to rinse thoroughly and towel dry. Most of these cleaners are acid based, so beware to avoid contact with other parts of the furniture or your environment. The cleaner should not include harmful chemicals such as chloride and should not be applied with an abrasive metal brush or pad. An "Inox Surface Cleaner", which provides a thorough chemical cleaning, can also be purchased through Henry Hall Designs – please inquire for cost.

Metal polishes can also be used to "buff" the frames, such as Noxon®. Be sure that whatever product you use is specific for stainless steel, and again, test first in a small area.

MORE ABOUT ELECTROPOLISHING

The electropolishing of stainless steel is a very complicated and long treatment. The piece is first fully cleaned in chemical reagents. Subsequently it is blasted with ceramic pearls. This blasting process hardens the surface since the ceramic pearls are harder than the steel and is thus pressing the steel closer together. Electropolishing literally dissects the metal crystal atom by atom. After this the product is put again into a chemical bath with a current flowing through the furniture. This process makes sure that a full layer of Cr₃+O₃ (chromium) is formed on the stainless steel surface. The result is greater protection with an overall reduction of the surface profile and a simultaneous smoothing and brightening of the metal surface.



WARRANTY

We warrant our electropolished stainless steel sold to the original owner to be free from defects in construction and materials for 3 years of normal residential use, when regular cleaning is being maintained.

If the steel frame is not electropolished, this warranty does not apply.

These warranties do not apply to damage resulting from improper maintenance, misuse, negligence, or normal wear.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON OUR STAINLESS STEEL PRODUCTS:

Umbrella stands: We currently offer two types of stands: the (BR31) Square Stainless Steel 304L grade stand (not electropolished), which features a pull-out handle with wheels, or a (BY35) Black Powdercoated Steel Plate stand (with stainless steel sleeve), also with wheels. In coastal areas, we recommend that the black powdercoated stand is used.

Stainless steel hardware: Some of our collections use stainless steel hardware for joinery, bolts and recliner support bars. These parts are not electropolished, and should be washed down on a regular basis, as all stainless steel.

HENRY HALL DESIGNS
255 Kansas Street, Suite 310
San Francisco CA 94103
T: 800.767.7738 or 415.863.4868
F: 415.863.4858
E: info@henryhalldesigns.com
www.henryhalldesigns.com

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