

Cleaning and Maintenance of Aluminium Windows and Doors.

To retain the aesthetic qualities and ensure a long coating life, powder coated articles have to be cleaned.

The British Standard for powder coating on aluminium for external use, BS 6496: 1984 (1991) states that a six monthly cleaning schedule is the maximum recommended frequency.

Areas of high industrial pollution, marine or swimming pool environments (aggressive environments) will require different cleaning frequencies and other coating/fabrication parameters should be considered on an individual project basis but generally cleaning should be carried out every month.

To retain a guarantee on the coated metal it is a mandatory requirement to have logged proof of cleaning retained by the building occupier. This is to be held for the lifetime of the guarantee, normally 5 to 10 years, except in aggressive environments where each building is given an individual time span for the powder coating guarantee.

To clean the building, mild detergent dissolved in warm water is to be used.

Approved products are:

Ajax Cream
Liquid Gumption
Flash
Ajax Liquid

Abrasive cleaners, strong acidic or alkaline cleaners or cleaning products containing solvents, bleach, soda, hydrochloric acid brick wash etc, must not be used on or near the coated articles.

The use of these cleaning agents will negate the guarantee for the coating, and will reduce its life span.

An assessment of the cleaning product data sheet will be required to ensure safe working practise is observed by the cleaning contractor, ensure splashing and run off rinse is not going to be a problem to your employees or the Local Environmental Agency.