

THE CARE AND PROTECTION  
OF LIVING FINISHES

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E. R. BUTLER & CO.'S patinated finishes are produced by hand, one object at a time, in order to create an intense penetration of the patina into the metal surface. Our pre-oxidized surfaces are not plasticized or otherwise covered with a coat of any kind, other than a hard paste wax. Living or organic finishes are therefore not to be confused with typical patination, which is tank-dipped without handwork and is thus superficial, requiring clear or tinted lacquer, paint, epoxy, or a powder-coat for protection.

ABOUT YOUR FINISH

Living finishes have NO PROTECTIVE COATING on them, having instead an exposed patina on their surface, essentially what nature would do to the surface over a long period of time. Living finishes are thus intended to change with time and use, and will generally lighten where they are touched and darken where they are not touched. Hand oils and acidic fluids will alter the finish. Any type of astringent, abrasive cleaners (pads, cloths, or sponges) will damage the finish, as with all natural finishes. Living finishes should be not be considered durable nor permanent, and are easily scratched or scuffed.

To protect from exposure to atmospheric conditions, and further oxidization prior to installation, E. R. Butler & Co. coats the surface with a hard paste wax. In general, waxes protect more than oils, especially surfaces frequently touched by human hands.

MAINTAINING FINISHES

Periodic cleaning is recommended and can be performed by using a carnauba or micro-crystalline wax (we recommend Butcher's or Renaissance Wax). Always apply, remove, or buff the wax with a clean, soft, smooth, lint-free cloth. Gently coat the patinated surface to add a protective coating to the finish. After the wax has had time to harden, polish the surface by buffing the wax.

NEVER use cleaners with bleach, ammonia, solvents, detergents, or vinegar. Never use any type of abrasive (pads, cloths, or sponges).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is the responsibility of the customer to check for any finish defects BEFORE installation. E. R. Butler & Co. does not warrant these finishes AFTER the fixture has been installed. No finish warranty is offered on E. R. Butler & Co. living finish products.