

AFTERCARE OF HARDWOOD & PROTECTION OF IRONMONGERY

AFTERCARE OF HARDWOOD

ROOF MAINTENANCE

The roofs are virtually maintenance free from the gutter up as the rafter caps, ridge covers, crest and finials are all aluminium.

STAINED FINISH

If your frames have a stained finish, they have been dipped to give one protective coat of preservative/stain (base coat) and then sprayed with two layers of top coat. These are microporous coats, which form a flexible barrier between the wood and the elements. Once installed according to our installation instructions, the frames should need little attention for 2–3 years.

PAINTED FINISH

If your frames have a painted finish, they have been dipped to give one protective coat of preservative/colouring (base coat), and then sprayed with two layers of coloured top coat. These are microporous coats, which form a flexible barrier between the wood and the elements. Once installed according to our installation instructions, the frames should need little attention for 12–18 months.

MAINTENANCE

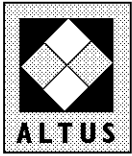
This means that the maintenance of your stained or painted frames is very easy, as follows: every 2–3 years for stained frames, and 12–18 months for painted frames. Simply wash down with warm water and a mild detergent. Rinse thoroughly, and fill any cracks as required with suitable wood filler, and apply a coat of brushing top coat of the required colour. **Please note, any paints/stains used must be microporous**, and these can be obtained at most DIY stores or paint shops, or direct from Altus Services Ltd.

IMPORTANT NOTES

The above time scales are given as a guide only, and do not take into account varying site and weather conditions. Bear in mind that all frames should be regularly inspected for deterioration and necessary maintenance action taken. Frames should not be rubbed down with sandpaper. If a slight key is required, a very fine sanding cloth should be used. Any bare wood exposed must be treated with our base coat stain before applying top coats.

CLEANING OF HARDWOOD FRAMES

Wash down the hardwood with warm water and a mild detergent and rinse thoroughly. **Do not use abrasive cleaners.** This is a good time to inspect the finish for any deterioration, and take action as necessary.



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PROTECTION OF HARDWARE

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE OF STANDARD HANDLES

Use a soft cloth, and warm soapy water, (not detergents). **DO NOT USE ABRASIVES**, or any other proprietary metal polishes

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE OF ANTIQUE HANDLES

Iron in any form, whether Cast or Malleable is susceptible to rusting. Following the painting process of the handles and screws, the use of the handles will inevitably cause the paint surface in contact to be lost. When 2 areas of metal come into contact with each other corrosion is inevitable. This is more apparent if these handles are part of new works that have been screeded or plastered or are near to the coast. Therefore due to the nature of these handles, we recommend periodical wiping down with an oily cloth to remove deposits that can cause corrosion. If corrosion does appear on these handles this can also be wiped away with an oily cloth (3 in 1 or similar)

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE OF FLAG HINGES

Use a soft cloth, and warm soapy water, (not detergents). **DO NOT USE ABRASIVES**, or any other proprietary metal polishes. Lubricate as required with a light oil suitable for the purpose.

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE OF BRASSWARE

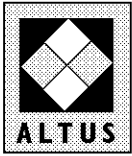
Brass is supplied already lacquered. Care should be exercised when cleaning any brassware to ensure that the lacquer surface is not penetrated. Use a soft cloth, and warm soapy water, (not detergents). **DO NOT USE ABRASIVES**, or any other proprietary metal polishes, as they will remove the lacquer. In time, due to atmospheric conditions, more especially in coastal, or industrial areas, the lacquer will begin to peel and a patchy appearance may occur. If this happens, we recommend removing the product from its position and polishing thoroughly with a smooth paste such as SOLVOL, nail polish remover, or a liquid metal polish. When the original brightness is achieved, wash the product in hot soapy water to remove all traces of paste/polish.

To retain the bright effect, and avoid continuous cleaning, the product can be re-lacquered. **DRY THOROUGHLY** before re-lacquering. Then, using a proprietary spray or coating, apply 2 coats of lacquer.

Polishes and lacquers for metals can be purchased at most Auto accessory shops.

FRICITION HINGES

Maintenance is an important, but straightforward process. Keep the friction stay track free from dirt and grime and keep the hinge mechanism clean. Lubricate the metal parts regularly with oil, concentrating on the pivot points. Friction can be increased or decreased by adjustments of the brass screw. Turn in a clockwise direction to increase friction. Take care not to over-tighten.



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WINDOW LOCKING MECHANISMS

Windows are fitted with espagnolette or shootbolt locking systems that will also allow the window to remain partly open and locked to facilitate ventilation with security.

To engage the window in its night vent position, open the window to approximately 15mm and then return the handle to its locking position. You may feel a slight resistance, but do not try to force the handle. Simply move the window slightly until you find a point where there is no resistance. Check the window is held securely in the night vent position by trying to push it gently – if held securely it should not move.

Maintenance of locking systems is simple: apply a little all-purpose oil or WD40 to the moving parts once a year. Similarly, a little grease should be applied to the locking keeps on the frame to facilitate smooth operation.

WEATHERSEALS

Weatherseals should be cleaned at least once a year to remove any dust or grime.

TRICKLE VENTS

Trickle vents should be cleaned at least once a year to remove any dust or grime.