

SHOWER ENCLOSURES & BATHTUBS

Bathtubs, sinks and showers are made from a variety of materials. Vitreous china and porcelain enamel on cast iron or steel are among the most commonly used materials. Other materials include fiberglass and pulverized marble resin for vanity tops and shower bases. For regular tub or shower cleaning, use a washcloth, warm water and liquid cleaner or detergent. The foam bathroom cleaners also work well with a washcloth. If you clean your tub in this fashion every week or so, no other maintenance will be needed.

MAINTENANCE TIPS

- Your glass or shower doors are made of tempered glass. To clean glass tub or shower enclosures, an ordinary dishwasher detergent (not soap) will do very well unless hard water minerals have been deposited. NOTE: Shower glass should be wiped clean with a squeegee after each use to prevent this hard water build up. If this has occurred, use a commercial glass cleaner containing ammonia or a solution of one (1) tablespoon of household ammonia in a quart of hot water.
- Abrasive cleaners are not needed or recommended on glass or metal surfaces. No cleaners are necessary if the unit is wiped down regularly.
- Use of rubber floor mats in showers is not recommended, because they can cause surface blisters as well as trap fungus and mold.
- The trick to cleaning a glass shower door is to squeegee off excess water after each use. Shower doors that are frequently squeegeed may also be cleaned with household glass cleaners.
- Vitreous china and porcelain enamel fixtures are smooth and glossy like a mirror and they are very durable, but not indestructible. Carelessness causes chipping, scratches, and stains. A blow from a heavy or sharp object will chip the surface, and scraping or banging metal utensils in a sink will gradually scratch and dull the surface. Shiny new fixtures can also be dulled or stained within a short period of time through improper or excessive use of strong



HOME CARE TIP

Glass shower enclosures must be wiped down with a towel, cloth or squeegee after each use to prevent the build-up of mold, mildew or soap.

If soap scum build-up occurs, a liquid cleaner may be used to remove unwanted film residue or shower residue.

abrasive cleaners. Most household cleaners are mildly abrasive, and when used with plenty of water, are not harmful. The new aerosol bathroom cleaners are generally not abrasive and are safer.

- Most rust stains are caused by wet metal utensils left on the surface of a sink or any other metal surface. Use a commercial powdered rust remover following the manufacturer's directions carefully. Use rust removers only on acid-resisting fixtures. All modern kitchen sinks, vitreous china fixtures, and colored fixtures are of acid-resistant quality, but be sure not to get the rust remover on the chrome-plated fittings. Steel wool soap pads should be kept in an appropriate container; once wet, they will rust and stain.
- Fiberglass Care & Cleaning – Do not use abrasive cleaners! To clean, use warm water and any liquid detergent. For stubborn stains, use the powder detergents. Solvents such as turpentine and paint thinner may be used without harming the surface. Scouring pads made of nylon, saran or polyethylene and containing no abrasives may be used. Restore dulled areas by rubbing with an automotive type liquid cleaner followed by an application of liquid wax. To restore dulled areas, apply a coat of Gel gloss to clean surface.
- A variety of commercial cleansers are made especially for the toilet bowl. Use them according to the manufacturer's direction, and do not mix them or use them in conjunction with household bleach or any cleaning product. Never use these cleansers in anything but a toilet.