

Product Care & Maintenance

Schmitt Marine Stainless Steel Wheels & Horns Care & Maintenance

You take great pride in your boat's steering wheel and horn. You've chosen carefully and invested wisely in the sleek and sexy look of stainless, but without proper care and maintenance your boat's stainless steel components are still at risk of corrosion.

While Stainless Steel has an anti-corrosive coating, maintaining resistance to corrosion can only be achieved by keeping the surface of your components clean and free from harmful contaminants that may reduce protection. Even marine salt deposits can lead to the deterioration of your stainless wheel and horn. While stainless maintenance may sound complicated, it is really quite simple—but there are some definite *DOs* & *DON'Ts* to consider in order to maintain the life and luster of your stainless steel components.

DO

- Routinely clean stainless steel with a mild abrasive cleaner such as soap and water using a soft cloth. Dry completely with a soft clean cloth. Glass cleaners also work well on stainless steel.
- Use car wax with a soft cloth to remove stubborn stains, promote shine and add protection. Dry completely and buff with a soft dry cloth.
- Remove rust spots immediately to avoid irreversible pitting. Chrome, silver, and brass cleaners work well.
- Be sure to clean thoroughly if you think your components have been exposed to iron, rust, or other non-stainless steels.
- Guard against environmental conditions such as humidity with increased cleanings.
- Clean as often as necessary. Cleaning frequency varies according to conditions and exposure.

DON'T

- Use abrasive cleaning implements like steel wool that will scratch or corrode your stainless.
- Clean with bleaches or mineral acids.

- Expose stainless steel to iron, steel or other metals that promote rust and corrosion.

AVOID

- Bleach
- Chlorosulfuric Acid
- Comet, Soft Scrub, and other cleansers
- EZ-ON, EZ-OFF
- Ferric Chloride
- Ferrous Chloride
- Ferrous Iodide
- Fluorine
- Hydrobromic Acid
- Hydrochloric Acid
- Hydrofluoric Acid
- Hydrofluorosilicic Acid
- Iodine
- Marine Spray Nine
- Muriatic Acid
- On & Off Cleaner
- Rust Stains Away
- Silver Chloride
- SnoBol
- Sodium Bifluoride
- Sodium Chlorite
- Sodium Hypochlorite
- Stannic Chloride
- Sulphur Chloride
- Sulfuric Acid