



## Cleaning ZALMAG®

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### Helpful Hints for ZALMAG® Materials

#### CLEANING ZALMAG®

##### General Cleaning Do's & Don'ts:

- It is always a good idea to test the cleaner on a sample to make sure it will not harm the surface. Always follow the cleaning product manufacturer's instructions for application and surface rinsing.
- Never use abrasive products or cleaning agents with abrasive components.
- Always use chloride-free, pH neutral products

##### Cleaning adherent or hardened grime deposits (not containing adhesives)

Adherent deposits can range from hydrocarbon or oil and dirt mixtures to bird droppings. Degreasers can effectively loosen deposits containing hardened hydrocarbons or oil. Test in a low visibility spot before use. Follow manufacturer's application and rinsing instructions. **MILD ABRASIVES ARE NOT SUITABLE** for ZALMAG® products.

- Use an acid free liquid degreaser that is designed for use on stainless steel or other metals.
- Use a pH neutral, acid free cleaning products.

##### Removing adhesives

If possible, contact the adhesive manufacturer and obtain their advice. The cleaning products that are necessary to remove specific adhesives can vary considerably. Solvents are generally used in combination with a soft bristle plastic brush and a soft clean cloth for applying the solution. After using the solvent, it is usually best to wash the ZALMAG® with a mild detergent solution to remove any residual solvent.

- Remove the tape, adherent stickers, strippable film and other deposits by hand. Avoid the use of abrasives or brushes that could scratch the surface. Plastic scrapers may be used to gently remove deposits without scratching the surface.
- Initially try rubbing alcohol, a citric acid cleaner, or a product that combines these ingredients. Other less hazardous solvents and adhesive removers may be tried.

##### Heavy fingerprints, grease, or oil

Hydrocarbon solvents are necessary for complete removal of heavier grease and oil deposits. This may include alkaline formulations with surfactant additions. It is



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always a good idea to test the cleaner on a sample to make sure they will not harm the surface. Follow the manufacturer's application and rinsing instructions.

- Use an oil-free citric acid cleaner that is designed for grease removal.
- Hot water power washing with a mild detergent, oil-free citric acid cleaner, or a degreasing solution designed for this purpose can cut through many grease and oil deposits.
- Apply an acid free, liquid degreaser that is specifically designed for use on stainless steel and other metals.

### **Fingerprints on small areas**

Use the same products that are used for cleaning larger surfaces. It is best to check the ingredients for anything that might be corrosive to galvanized metals and to test any cleaner in a less visible spot before use.

- Dilute dishwashing detergent is typically a more effective degreaser than a window cleaner.
- Proprietary oil, hydrocarbon, and wax free stainless steel and other metals degreasers are effective and are generally less messy than a detergent and water solution.

### **Light surface contaminants, such as dirt and light fingerprints on exterior applications**

Liquid dishwashing detergent or automotive detergent can be used as long as the product does not leave a coating on the surface. Coatings can adversely affect appearance and corrosion performance over time. These products can remove heavier dirt deposits and fingerprinting than window cleaners. The detergent should contain a degreaser. Some liquid detergents contain chlorides. **USE CHLORINE / CHLORIDE FREE or pH NEUTRAL PRODUCTS.** If you become aware that a product has been used that contains chlorine or chlorides, it is important to thoroughly rinse off any residual detergent or it may increase the probability of corrosion.

### **Water Spots**

Resistant water spots are usually caused by using rinse water with a high contained-solids content and allowing water to dry on the surface. The water leaves mineral deposits on the surface when it dries.

- There are proprietary cleaners designed specifically for removing these deposits.
- If rinse water is needed, use clean potable water, preferably with a low contained-solids content.



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## **Cleaning ZALMAG®**

- Remove the water from the ZALMAG® surface with an air blower or it can be wiped dry with a chamois or similar product. If the rinse water will be allowed to dry on the surface, use de-ionized water.