

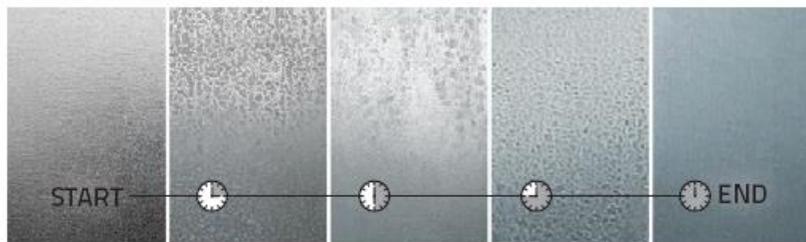


ZALMAG® MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

ZALMAG® is a carbon steel coated with a mixture of zinc, aluminum, and magnesium. Due to its composition and available finishes, ZALMAG® is highly resistant in corrosive environments. Its surfaces are ever-changing and continue to patina over time. The rate and way the material will patina is dependent on the climate (location) of a project. All our ZALMAG® products age to a soft grey tone over time.

Natural ZALMAG® Patina Process

While all our ZALMAG® products age to a soft grey tone over time, one of the most noticeable changes occurs with Natural ZALMAG® as it transitions from a shiny metallic silver to a matte grey (with hints of blue) patina.



Cleaning ZALMAG®, what to use...

Immediate cleaning of ZALMAG® is more effective at saving the aesthetics of the ZALMAG® surface than waiting to clean. However, ZALMAG® is a naturally aging metal and will use surface deposits and environmental effects to patina its surface (including fingerprints). Please note, fingerprints are common on ZALMAG® surfaces, as ZALMAG® ages the fingerprints will age and blend with the surface patina. Fingerprints which occur on the metal surface due to sweat on the skin may not be completely covered by natural weathering over time, dependent on intensity, and may be visually conspicuous for a long period of time.

To avoid color blocking or stair stepping, it is important to complete sections of the installation simultaneously. If there are long delays, it should be expected that color and patina differences will occur. This means the material is doing what it is supposed to which is react to the environment it's exposed to and begins to patina immediately.

Test the cleaner on a low-visibility area to ensure it will not harm the surface. Follow the cleaning product manufacturer's instructions for PPE use, application of the cleaner, and surface rinsing.

Effective cleaning for fingerprints on Black ZALMAG®:

- Best results seen during the first 48 hours of/after installation. Do not scrub the surface hard, or the motion will remove the Black ZALMAG® coating. Coating removal does not harm the metal; however, it will change the visual aesthetic. For light surface dirt or fingerprints, use dry, clean microfiber cloth to wipe down surface. If necessary, repeat using new dry, clean cloths.
- If surface fingerprints persist, use tap water to rinse metal and using a dry, clean microfiber cloth wipe down the metal while metal is wet. Let water evaporate. Repeat rinse and wipe-down, if needed.
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- For heavy surface fingerprinting, use acetone on a dry, clean microfiber cloth to clean off heavy fingerprinting marks. Or cover the metal surface with chalk (sidewalk chalk or similar), allow chalk to absorb fingerprint oils for a minimum of 5 minutes, then rinse with tap water, and wipe down with a clean, dry microfiber cloth. May see some black coating residue on towel.



Natural ZALMAG®



Pre-Patina II ZALMAG®



Black ZALMAG®

Effective chemicals for cleaning Natural, Pre-Patina II, and Black:

- Only use Chloride-free, pH neutral products (pH 7-10).
- Mild dish soap and water.
- Acetone. (Volatile chemical, reference SDS and wear PPE and follow safety recommendations of manufacturer.)
- Agent Blue cleaner (degreaser). (Wear PPE and follow safety recommendations of manufacturer.)
- Mineral Spirits. This may expedite the patina process on Natural ZALMAG® products. (Volatile chemical, reference SDS and wear PPE and follow safety recommendations of manufacturer.)
- Charcoal lighter fluid. (Volatile chemical, reference SDS and wear PPE and follow safety recommendations of manufacturer.)

What not to use...

- Never use abrasive products or cleaning agents with abrasive components. (This can scratch the surface and/or remove coating. Neither scratches nor coating removal is detrimental to metal; it only changes the visual aesthetic.)
- Dissimilar metals should not be adjacent to the ZALMAG® product, in order to prevent galvanic corrosion. (Galvanized metals are compatible and safe to use in contact with ZALMAG®. Stainless steel metals are not compatible and may initiate galvanic corrosion between the metals.)

How often do I need to clean ZALMAG®?

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The cleaning intervals depend on the location of your building and the owner's preference. Cleaning your building 2-4 times a year is typical for some ZALMAG® applications. This can change depending on the building's location to roadways subject to high traffic and road salt, owner's preference, amount of foot traffic, weather conditions, and the surrounding environment.

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