



Astro Guides

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# Care + Cleaning



The design and development team at Astro take great care in designing, manufacturing and selecting the right materials so that our products reach you in a perfect condition. If used and maintained correctly, they will give years of trouble free service.

Detailed in the following pages are some simple do's and don'ts as well as useful hints to help maintain the products in pristine condition.

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#### **Storage of Products**

Products should be stored in a cool, clean, dry, low humidity environment. Products should be stored in their packaging until needed for installation and ideally not placed directly on the floor so as to maintain airflow around the packaging.

#### **Warning**

Please ensure electrical power to the product is switched off before carrying out any cleaning, maintenance or disassembly.

# Interior products



Depending on the environment these will require regular cleaning and maintenance to ensure they do not accumulate dirt and dust.

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## General

- ▶ If the product is to be disassembled make sure you have a copy of the instructions to hand for re-assembly. Instructions can be downloaded from the product page on the Astro website.
- ▶ If bulbs are to be removed for cleaning and they have been switched on, ensure sufficient time has been allowed for them to cool before handling.
- ▶ Any untested cleaning products should be first tried on a small hidden area of the luminaire to ensure they do not affect the surface finish – or contact Astro Technical for further advice.
- ▶ Do not use abrasive cleaning products that contain ammonia, isopropyl alcohol or other solvents as the chemicals can damage any applied finishes.

### **Metal Products**

Clean with a soft dry cloth, if particularly dirty moisten the cloth using fresh water, dry thoroughly using a separate soft cloth to avoid water spots.

### **Mirrors**

- ▶ Clean with a soft cloth moistened using fresh water, dry thoroughly using a separate soft cloth to avoid water spots.
- ▶ If particularly dirty, then use a soft cloth with a non-abrasive cleaning product.
- ▶ Wipe the glass starting from the centre, working outwards in a circular motion, do not clean over the mirrors edge.
- ▶ Polish using a clean microfibre cloth.

### **Painted Products**

Clean with a soft dry cloth and if particularly dirty, moisten the cloth using fresh water, dry thoroughly using a separate soft cloth to avoid water spots.

### **Fabric Shades**

- ▶ Use a fine brush – such as a paint brush or a lint remover on the shade to remove any accumulated dirt or dust.
- ▶ Use a soft cloth slightly moist with fresh water to gently remove any dirty marks.
- ▶ DO NOT immerse shades with a plastic inner liner or trim in water.

### **Plastics**

Clean with a soft dry cloth and if particularly dirty, moisten the cloth using fresh water, dry thoroughly using a separate soft cloth to avoid water spots.

### **Glass shades & products**

- ▶ Use a clean, soft cloth to wipe the product.
- ▶ If the surface is particularly dirty use a soft cloth moistened with a mild solution of detergent and water to clean the product evenly.
- ▶ Detach glass parts from the product and rinse thoroughly with fresh water.
- ▶ A mild glass cleaner may also be used as long as it does not come into contact with any other surfaces of the product.
- ▶ Ensure the glass parts are fully dried before re-assembly.

### **Wooden products**

Clean with a soft dry cloth, if particularly dirty moisten the cloth using fresh water, dry thoroughly using a separate soft cloth to avoid water spots.

### **Plaster /Ceramic products**

- ▶ Bare plaster / ceramic is very porous; any water or liquids which come in contact with it can create tide lines and staining.
- ▶ Dust can be removed with a dry soft cloth.

- ▶ Dirty marks may be removed by carefully rubbing using a damp 'Smoke Sponge' or similar made from vulcanized rubber.
- ▶ If the plaster has been sealed using a paint or varnish coating it can be cleaned with a slightly damp cloth.

### **Interior lights in coastal locations**

- ▶ Astro Lighting uses high quality painted and electroplated finishes in all its products that offer good levels of protection to the metallic substrates. However, the air in coastal locations has a much higher salt content and even finishes on interior lighting could suffer from corrosion unless maintained correctly. We recommend that the proximity to the sea, the openness of the room architecture and the appropriateness of the finish should be taken into account when specifying products.
- ▶ Products used in these situations should be cleaned regularly with a damp lint free cloth and then dried thoroughly; this will help remove harmful salt from the surface of the product and prolong the surface finish.
- ▶ If possible we advise precautions are taken to control the temperature and humidity in the room by keeping doors and windows closed and air conditioning active.

# Exterior products

Exterior products require regular six monthly cleaning and maintenance to ensure they do not accumulate dirt, garden vegetation or bird faeces, etc.

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## General

- ▶ General rules for indoor products also apply.
- ▶ For products located on or close to ground level it's important to ensure these do not come into contact with products or chemicals used on lawns, driveways or decking, etc. as these can damage surface finishes.
- ▶ DO NOT use pressure washers on any Astro product.

### Metal Products

In normal circumstances and environments, stainless steel, brass, painted or plated products are quite resistant to corrosion. They do however require maintenance to preserve their high quality appearance.

- ▶ Wash the product with a solution of detergent and warm water, remove all surface deposits.
- ▶ Rinse with fresh water and dry with a soft cloth.

### Coastal or Extreme Environments

If the product is subject to extreme environmental conditions such as coastal locations or industrial pollution these exterior maintenance procedures should be carried out at least four times per year.

- ▶ Wash the product with a solution of detergent and warm water to remove an salt or any other surface deposits.
- ▶ Rinse with fresh water.

### Brass Coastal Products

Please note that natural brass is an untreated raw material and the finish will change over time. The structural integrity of the brass will remain unchanged but as the product ages the surface will naturally oxidise and mottle. If you wish to maintain the original look of the brass for as long as possible we recommend that the product is rinsed with fresh water every few months.

### Concrete Coastal Products

The manufacturing process for this product involves individually casting each product by combining concrete with weatherproof additives. The resulting finish is a robust and authentic product with natural imperfections and have its own unique finish. To clean any deposits from the product, we recommend lightly brushing. Any remaining sediment should be rinsed with fresh clean water.