

Storm Door General Care and Maintenance

Glass Wash glass using a household glass cleaner, or a warm water/mild detergent mixture, and a soft cloth or paper towel.

Brass Inlaid Glass Use only warm water to clean the glass portion of brass inlaid glass. Do **NOT** use household glass cleaners on brass inlaid glass. Many cleaners containing ammonia will expedite tarnishing of brass. For brass cleaning, see the "Brass Products" section.

Door Finish Aluminum Skin--Non-abrasive paste wax may be used on your door's outer surface to help keep the finish looking new. (Follow directions on the product's label.)

Vinyl Skin--Wash using a warm water/mild detergent mixture, and a soft cloth.

Hinges/Hardware Hinges and door hardware may require occasional lubrication. A silicone spray lubricant is recommended.

Brass-tone (Anodized) Expander Wash expander using a warm water/mild detergent mixture, and a soft cloth. (Do not use a brass cleaner or steel wool. This is **NOT** a real brass product.)

Brass Products (Finish)

A number of Larson storm door models incorporate high quality "real" brass component parts. As with all brass products, tarnishing will occur. Without proper care, brass can become stained so heavily that cleaning cannot totally remove the stain. In extreme cases of neglect, pitting can occur.

Larson locksets and deadbolts have a clear coat finish. Clear coat finishes will protect against tarnishing. If the clear coat finish is damaged, tarnishing will occur. Larson brass, inlaid in the glass, does not have a clear coat finish. It requires periodic cleaning and polishing to maintain the shiny brass appearance. Should tarnishing occur in either case, the shiny brass finish can be restored as follows:

Brass Inlaid Glass Inserts

Clean and polish as directed below every two to three weeks when brass is used in outdoor applications. Four to five week intervals are recommended for indoor applications.

• For normal cleaning situations, including mild tarnishing:

1. Apply small amounts of brass cleaner (i.e. Brasso, Tarni-Shield) with a clean soft cotton cloth per manufacturer's directions.
2. Be careful not to allow excess cleaner to be deposited on the glass surface.
3. Do not allow cleaner to "cake" between edges of brass and the glass surface.
4. Should "caking" occur, use a toothbrush or similar nylon, stiff bristle brush to gently loosen and remove excess material.

- **For solder joints and heavily tarnished brass:**

1. Buff lightly with #0000 size steel wool until bright brass finish returns. Use small pieces of steel wool, so that "wool overhang" will not scratch the glass surface.
Note: Heavily tarnished brass will require more buffing pressure than the softer solder joint material.
2. Clean the brass, applying small amounts of brass cleaner per manufacturer's instructions as described above.

Brass Locksets, Deadbolts, Name Plates, and Kick Plates

- **Cleaning**

1. Wash brass hardware using a warm water/mild detergent mixture, and a soft cloth.
Do not use abrasive cleaners or cloths as they may damage the clear coat finish.
2. Apply non-abrasive paste wax on the brass hardware to help restore it's bright finish.

- **Refinishing (if clear coat is damaged and tarnishing has occurred)**

1. Remove the tarnished hardware from the door.
2. Remove damaged clear coat. This can be done by using a paint stripper, or by lightly rubbing the hardware using #0000 steel wool. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using a stripper.
Note: If refinishing keyed hardware, cover the key opening with masking tape to keep out stripper or steel wool particles.
3. Once the clear coat is removed, continue to lightly rub with #0000 steel wool over tarnished areas until the bright brass finish returns.
4. Clean the brass using a brass cleaner (i.e. Brasso, Tarni-Shield) per the manufacturer's directions.
5. Apply a "new" clear coat finish. For best results, a clear lacquer spray is recommended. The lacquer can be purchased at most hardware stores and should be applied per label directions.
Note: If refinishing keyed hardware, cover the key opening with masking tape when applying the lacquer finish (to protect the locking mechanism from gumming up with lacquer).
6. Reinstall the hardware on the door.