

How to Care for a Kitchen or Bathroom Faucet

Your new kitchen/bathroom faucet requires proper maintenance and care in order to maintain its attractive appearance and provide you with years of uneventful performance. Keeping the faucetry in your home in optimal shape means staying on top of the best ways to care for and maintain it's fresh from the factory look.

Daily Maintenance and Care

Most faucets need very limited amounts of maintenances on a day to day basis. Cleaning your faucet should require merely a damp cloth and mild soap, followed by drying your kitchen faucet with a soft cloth. This will retain the original shine and luster of your faucet. You may also use window cleaning products on your faucet; however, use of harsh and abrasive cleaners can damage your faucet's finish. Always read the standard usage directions and warning that are found on all cleaning products before use. Faucets that have a matte finish may need an added step of an aerosol or liquid furniture polish when being cleaned. Using furniture polish on your faucet renders a more uniform appearance, reduces variations, and protects the faucet from fingerprints due to the silicon oil found in the polish.

Faucet Care: Removing Deposits

Many homeowners are faced with the challenges of having hard water, and this can hard water can also be hard on your faucet. Higher mineral counts in hard water may often lead to mineral and lime deposits on your faucet or drain. These deposits may be removed with a window cleaner or mild abrasive cleaner, but with caution: avoid scrubbing with coarse sponges or bristly soap pads that can damage your faucet's finish. More stubborn deposits may require a specialized cleaner. Specialized cleaners made particularly for these and other types of problems are often the optimal choice to preserve the beauty of your faucet. These cleaners are reasonably priced and well-worth the investment.

Cleaning tips.

How should I clean or maintain the finish on my faucet?

- Wipe your faucet with a damp cloth and mild household cleanser.
- Dry with a soft cloth to retain luster and shine.
- Remove hard water stains with a 50/50 solution of white vinegar and water. Rinse thoroughly with water afterward. What cleaning products can cause damage to faucet finishes? Although your faucet's finish is extremely durable, it can be damaged or scratched by harsh cleaners or abrasives.

Here's what to avoid:

- Industrial cleaners • Abrasive cleaners • Toilet bowl cleaners • Bleach-based cleaners • Polish
- Ammonia solutions • Heavy-duty scrub sponges • Products that state on the label that they remove tarnish and rust • Products containing hydrofluoric, hydrochloric and/or phosphoric acids and caustic agents

What's the best way to remove lime and mineral deposits from my faucet?

If using a mild household cleanser doesn't do the job, place a cloth soaked in white vinegar over the deposits for several hours, then try the mild cleanser again. Note: Drying the faucet with a soft cloth after each use will help prevent mineral deposits.

