

## Maintenance

As with all hardware, a little oil or graphite periodically applied to moving parts will assure smooth operation. Moving parts of articles installed in an exterior location should be greased.

The metal under the black coating of Dull Black iron articles is iron-gray, and will be revealed in places with usage, giving the appearance of antique patina desired by most designers and owners. Periodic wiping with a lightly-oiled cloth is the only maintenance required and recommended. Permanent jet black finish can be maintained, if preferred, by touching up with a good-quality metal paint when necessary, usually every three or four years. After the paint is thoroughly dry, periodic wiping with a lightly-oiled cloth should be resumed.

Exposed surfaces of Armour Bright articles are rust proofed by the process of sherardizing, and need only be wiped down with a clean duster. Light wax polish may be used if applied sparingly.

Brass and Bronze articles are coated with a metal lacquer. This only provides temporary protection since all lacquers will break down eventually. In the case of highly-polished brass and bronze hardware, lacquer breakdown and inevitable nicks and scratches result in discolouration and unsightly spotty deposits that can only be mended by regular cleaning with a metal polish after all lacquer is removed with lacquer stripper. This procedure is not necessary with antique finish articles. The textured and hammered surface with irregular dark spots is a feature of this hardware, and aging through exposure and wear enhances its characteristic appearance.

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