

DOCKSIDE CANVAS COMPANY – HOW TO CLEAN OUR PRODUCTS

Sunbrella Canvas

Sunbrella canvas boat tops can usually be cleaned while still on the boat. For underside and deep cleaning, removal and a large tub is recommended.

- Brush or vacuum off dust and loose dirt.
- Prepare a mixture of 1/4 cup mild, non-detergent soap per gallon of water. Dreft is a recommended mild soap. Detergents will remove the waterproof coating from the canvas and are harmful to waterways.
- Rub mix onto canvas using a soft bristle brush-the kind threaded onto a broomstick works quite well.
- Allow the soap to soak in for a couple minutes.
- Rinse off thoroughly. The hose works great.
- Air dry.

Stains and Mildew

- Prepare a mixture of 1/2 cup of chlorine bleach, 1/4 cup of mild, non-detergent soap and one gallon of water.
- Gently scrub with a soft bristle brush.
- Allow mix to soak in for up to 20 minutes.
- Air dry.
- Repeat if necessary.

Sunbrella canvas products including boat tops can be washed in a washing machine but only with cold-water wash and rinse. Never put them in a dryer. Air dry only. Water should be cool or tepid but never over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Use only non-detergent soap such as Dreft. Routine cleaning can be done with the canvas on the boat or in a laundry tub for a thorough washing. Sunbrella canvas is treated with a fluorocarbon finish, which lasts for several years but will eventually break down. You will notice this when water no longer beads together and rolls off the top but rather coats the surface. This finish coating will also be removed by washing with detergents. It is necessary to periodically re-treat this coating using 303 High Tech Fabric Guard-the only treatment recommended by Sunbrella. It will restore its water repellency and protects against oil-based stains.

How To Clean Clear Vinyl Isinglass Boat Windows (Roll & Sheet)

- Rinse off loose dirt and particles with clean fresh water.
- Fill a clean bucket with fresh water and add a mild, non-detergent soap such as Dreft. Mix ¼ cup soap per 1 gallon of water.
- Wash the windows by wiping them with a soft cloth, towel or washing mitt and soap/water solution.
- Rinse thoroughly in the same manner with clean fresh water and a clean cloth.
- Dry the isinglass with a clean absorbent cloth or towel to prevent water spots.
- Now the windows are ready for scratch remover and polish.

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Do Not

- Do not use window cleaner, since Windex, detergent soap, dish soap, Fantastic, simple green, Rainx or any other cleanser on clear vinyl boat windows. These chemicals break down the plasticizers that prevent yellowing, hazing and cracking.
- Do not use paper towel or anything abrasive to wipe the windows-they will scratch.

Do

- Only use a mild non-detergent soap such as Dreft or products that are specifically labeled for use on clear vinyl boat windows or isinglass.
- Follow up with 210 plastic scratch remover.
- Frequently apply a specialized polish and/or UV protectant after cleaning to maintain clarity and prevent sun damage such as 210 plastic cleaner/polish.

How To Clean Strataglass Boat Windows

Strataglass recommends using only IMAR cleaning products on Strataglass. Use of cleaners, polishes, scratch removers or any other product made for regular uncoated isinglass or clear vinyl will damage Strataglass. Using any other product will void the warranty.

- Rinse off loose dirt and particles with clean fresh water.
- Wash then rinse the windows by wiping them with a soft cloth, towel or washing mitt and clean, fresh water.
- Dry the Isinglass with a clean absorbent cloth, towel or chamois to prevent water spots.
- Apply IMAR Strataglass Protective Cleaner by misting it onto a soft cloth-lightly and briskly rub a manageable area and lightly buff dry with another clean soft cloth.
- Apply IMAR Strataglass Protective Polish sparingly with small circular motions using a soft cotton cloth.
- Allow the polish to dry then remove with another clean soft cloth.
- Lightly buff to a shine.

Do Not

- Do not use rainex on Strataglass windows.
- Do not handle with or smear sunscreen on windows.
- Do not use paper towel or anything abrasive to wipe Strataglass.
- Use of cleaners, polishes, scratch removers or any other product made for regular uncoated clear vinyl will damage Strataglass.

Do

- Only clean fresh water for general cleaning.
- Only use IMAR products for cleaning and polishing Strataglass.
- Use IMAR Strataglass protective polish every 1 to 2 months.
- Use IMAR Strataglass protective cleaner frequently.

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How to Clean EZ2CY® Windows

Initial Care

Initial and occasional use of EZ2CY® Enclosure Cleaner/Polish removes static that attracts dust and makes future washing easier. This product is easy to use and has anti-fog properties as well as helping to shed water. Use of Kleenex® Viva White paper towels is suggested for this procedure since they are soft, absorbent towels and leave little to no residue behind.

Normal Washing

Rinse the salt off your enclosure with fresh water after each day of use and periodically when exposed to salt air. More extensive cleaning may be accomplished with the use of common boat soaps in conjunction with a soft mitt reserved for this duty. Follow with a fresh water rinse. A squeegee or water blade, having no sharp edges, may also be used if so desired.

Zipper Care

Unzipping and washing of zippers with soap and water followed by a thorough rinsing of fresh water is recommended. If zipper tape is especially dirty, use a light solution of Woolite®-type fabric cleaner followed by a thorough rinsing with fresh water. **DO NOT USE ANY FORM OF LUBRICANT!**

Waxing

If desired, wax EZ2CY® with a good quality auto paste wax (avoid waxes with color). Follow by wiping with a damp cloth to remove static.

Scratches

Most scratches can be removed by hand polishing with EZ2CY® Scratch Remover. Use of electric buffer may facilitate: Keep moving over area, use light pressure, keep area moist using spray bottle with clean water. Rinse and follow with EZ2CY® Enclosure Cleaner/Polish.

Do Not Use

Window cleaning sprays, RAINEX®, Kitchen Scouring Compounds, solvents such as Acetone, Lacquer Thinner or cleaners that contain alcohol, any form of lubricant. **CAUTION** needs to be exercised when using metal cleaner on pipe work that is adjacent to the enclosure!

How To Clean Vinyl Boat Seats & Upholstery

Marine grade vinyl goods are designed to endure harsh marine conditions but without proper care and maintenance they will break down much faster. The best way to prolong the look and performance of boat seats and upholstery is to keep it clean and out of the sun. Install canvas window covers or seat covers - your expensive boat upholstery will last twice as long. Regular application of a UV inhibitor such as 303 Aerospace Protectant is highly recommended.

Routine Cleaning

- Make a solution of mild soap and water (Dreft). ¼ cup soap to 1 gallon fresh, clean water.

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- Dip, then wring out a soft cloth or sponge and wipe vinyl in a circular motion. Try to avoid pooling water into the seams.
- -Rinse the soap solution off the vinyl using fresh clean water with a soft cloth in the same manner as above.
- Wipe the vinyl dry with a soft, clean towel.

Deep Cleaning

- (After using the above Routine Cleaning method). When thoroughly dry, apply a vinyl cleaner - 303 Fabric & Vinyl Cleaner, and rub into the vinyl with a soft clean cloth or soft bristled brush. It may seem redundant to clean with mild soap first but that step is necessary to remove sunscreen, dirt and particles so the vinyl cleaner will penetrate the vinyl uninhibited.
- Remove excess cleaner with a soft cloth.

UV Protection (highly recommended)

- Use 303 Areospace Protectant. Spray on vinyl completely wetting the surface.
- Using a soft, dry cloth, wipe until the vinyl is dry. Be sure to absorb all excess protectant by wiping and polishing until completely dry. This will provide a finish coating that repels stains and provides UV protection.
- Apply every 3 to 5 weeks for maximum UV protection.
- Highly recommended to prolong the life of your boat seats and marine upholstery.

Mold Stains & Full Renewal

- Magic Eraser often works quite well at removing stains from the surface of marine vinyl. Before using specialized cleaners, try scrubbing the stain with water and a Magic Eraser pad. Use care when scrubbing. Do not scrub off or sand down the vinyl.
- Mix a solution of IOSSO Mold & Mildew Stain Remover per instructions.
- Wet the area with the IOSSO mix then let soak for about 15min.
- Scrub the area with a sponge or soft cloth. For stubborn stains try using a Magic Eraser to scrub the stain off.

Do Not

- Do not use harsh cleansers such as-Bleach, Ammonia, Windex, Simple Green, etc.-while most of these won't immediately effect the appearance, they slowly break down the vinyl reducing its lifespan.

Do

- Use a Magic Eraser carefully to remove stubborn stains.
- Use mild and specialized cleaners such as – Dreft Laundry Soap, IOSSO Stain Remover, 303 Fabric & Vinyl Cleaner, 303 Aerospace Protectant.
- Apply a UV inhibitor regularly to prolong the life and look of your marine vinyl upholstery - 303 Aerospace Protectant.

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Note: Nothing will clean Sharpie marker and ink stains off of vinyl boat seats and upholstery. When the ink penetrates into the vinyl it cannot be removed. The mark may be dulled in color and become a little bit less noticeable by using a solvent but the solvent will permanently damage the vinyl in the process. The only way to fix it is to replace the affected panel in the upholstery. (See our repair section).

How to Clean Aluminum & Stainless Steel Frames & Fixtures

Anodized Aluminum

Boat top frame tubing, radar arches and T-tops are often made out of anodized aluminum. It's a fairly stable, corrosion resistant and durable material yet as it ages some corrosion, pitting and white filming will occur. The best way to prevent this is to keep your aluminum clean and polished. If you have an old frame you will probably notice that the most severe corrosion is in the areas where snaps have been installed and where metal fittings meet. This may be due to a reaction caused when two different types of metal touch (galvanic corrosion). While this situation may be unavoidable, (snaps are brass or stainless steel), using aluminum pop rivets, or neutral-nylon plastic fittings will increase the life span of an anodized aluminum frame.

Aluminum Frames & Fixtures

- Mix a solution of dish soap and water or your standard boat top wash, (Dreft solution).
- For general cleaning, wash the tubing using a cloth or sponge.
- Pitting and white residue may be scrubbed off using 3M Scotchbrite pads. Do not use steel wool - the fine scratches will be imbedded with tiny particles of steel wool which will rust and cause further corrosion.
- Rinse thoroughly, because detergent, soap or cleanser residue may slowly deteriorate the anodized coating causing discoloration and corrosion over time.
- Thoroughly dry.
- Application of a metal cleaner and/or polish is recommended - polish will provide additional surface protection.
- Silver polish works well on aluminum.

Do Not

- Don't use steel wool on aluminum, stainless or brass.
- Do not use ammonia based-window-cleaner.

Do

- Use rubbing alcohol to clean bad stains.
- Apply a metal polish or wax after cleaning to prevent corrosion.

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How to Clean Stainless Steel Boat Frames & Fixtures

Stainless Steel, being one of the most durable corrosion resistant metals available, is perfectly suited for fixtures and hardware in the harsh marine environment. This super material even has it's own natural anti-corrosive coating-an adherent oxide passive film due to a reaction with surface oxygen. Despite this, Stainless is not impervious to corrosion. Keeping stainless steel clean of contaminants and avoiding contact with other kinds of metal is the best way to preserve it's beauty, functionality and promote it's natural corrosion defense.

Stainless Steel

- Mix a solution of mild soap and water.
- For general cleaning, wash the tubing using a cloth or sponge-do not use steel wool.
- Rinse thoroughly, because detergent, soap or cleanser residue may interfere with stainless steel's adherent oxide passive film.
- Thoroughly dry.
- Application of a metal cleaner and/or polish is recommended-polish will provide additional surface protection.

Do Not

- Don't use steel wool or sandpaper to scrub stainless steel.
- Do not use bleach.

Do

- Clean frequently with mild soap and water.
- Glass cleaner is acceptable for stainless steel.
- Application of a polish is recommended.