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## CARE AND MAINTENANCE- BRASS COUNTERTOPS

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A brass countertop that has been lacquered in production, should not be polished, but instead cleaned. Brass that is lacquered will feature with a clear layer and tarnish will only show up if a crack appears on the surface. This thin layer, in the short term, protects the brass finish from exposure to the atmosphere and will ensure it displays the bright shine. To help maintain your brass top properly, here is a guide on how to clean lacquered brass.

### **What is lacquered brass?**

Lacquer is not permanent and can be chipped, scratched or broken down chemically. As brass has a chemical production process, it is susceptible to oxidization in the atmosphere. Once the lacquer has been breached, steps must be taken to restrict exposure. As it is not possible for us to know the exact atmospheric conditions and the degree of use and abuse the lacquered brass top will get, it is not possible for us to give guarantees on the life of the lacquer.

### **How Do I Clean My Brass Top?**

To prolong the life of the lacquer, it is advised that the top is regularly cleaned with warm soapy water. To do this, you should only get the lacquered brass wet enough to clean the surface, then wipe with a clean wet cloth and dry thoroughly. You should also regularly dust brass with a soft cloth, but in general you will not need to wash it. However, if you do need to wipe something off, you should only use tepid water and mild washing up liquid. The occasional use of a good quality wax polish will also help to seal the chips and scratches in the lacquer itself. In exposed and external situations, more regular waxing is advised to keep it clean.

At some point, it is possible that the lacquer will deteriorate beyond your maintenance capabilities. When this happens with your lacquered brass, it is suggested that the lacquer is removed using a lacquer remover such as Acetone and then polished back to its original finish using a good quality brass clean such as Duraglit. We advise that once the item's lacquer has been removed, it is not re-lacquered and instead, periodical cleaning is undertaken.