

Cleaning Card — Frames, Doors, Glass & Hardware

POST THIS WHERE CLEANING SUPPLIES ARE KEPT. Give a copy to every custodian and to any outside janitorial contractor. Using the wrong cleaner causes **permanent** damage that no warranty covers.

✓ USE ONLY THIS

Mild, pH-neutral (pH 6–8) dish soap or detergent, diluted in clean water — applied with a soft cloth or sponge. Wipe dry with a soft cloth. Work top to bottom, out of direct sun.

That is the entire approved method. Nothing else is approved without **written** confirmation from Avalon.

✗ NEVER USE ON FRAMES OR DOORS

Do not use	Why
Hydrogen peroxide — or any "oxy" / peroxide cleaner	Bleaches the color out of anodized frames. Permanent.
Acidic cleaners (pH under 5) — incl. citrus / orange-oil / d-limonene degreasers	Strips the anodized finish
Ammonia, caustic or strongly alkaline cleaners (pH over 9)	Attacks the finish
Bleach, solvents, paint thinner, degreasers	Dissolves or dulls the finish
Abrasive powders or creams, scouring pads, steel wool, blades, scrapers	Scratches through the finish

⚠ BRONZE, DARK BRONZE & BLACK FRAMES

The color in an anodized frame is **dye held inside the finish — not paint on the surface**. Peroxide and acidic cleaners **bleach that dye out**.

This cannot be fixed. A bleached frame cannot be cleaned, polished, or touched up back to its color. It must be removed, chemically stripped and re-anodized — or painted over. **Not covered by warranty.**

⚠ "GREEN" DOES NOT MEAN SAFE

Cleaners sold as **green, eco, plant-based, non-toxic, or "non-irritating when diluted"** are **not automatically safe** on aluminum. Several popular peroxide- and citrus-based janitorial cleaners in exactly that category **will** strip anodized color. **Judge a cleaner by its pH and ingredients — not by its marketing.**

THIS HAS ACTUALLY HAPPENED

A library's cleaning staff switched to a peroxide-and-citrus "green" concentrate — about **8% hydrogen peroxide, pH 3.8**, sold as non-irritating once diluted. Within weeks the bronze anodized frames were visibly bleached. **The finish could not be restored; the frames had to be refinished.** Nobody involved thought they were using a harsh chemical.

OTHER SURFACES — QUICK GUIDE

- **Wood doors (factory finish)** — dust with a dry or barely damp cloth; use a **silicone-free** furniture polish (e.g. Guardsman). **No solvents, no ammonia, no abrasives, no steel wool.** Do not let water stand on the wood or soak into the edges.
- **Glass** — clean water and a mild, **non-abrasive** glass cleaner with a soft cloth or squeegee. **Never use blades, scrapers, or abrasive pads** on coated, low-E, tinted, or fire-rated glass. Avoid ammonia on coated glass. Remove labels and construction debris promptly.
- **Hardware** — soft, damp cloth and mild soap only; dry to avoid spotting. **No abrasives, no ammonia.** Report loose fasteners or a door that will not close and latch. **Never disable, wedge, or block a self-closing fire door.**

BEFORE YOU SWITCH CLEANERS

1. **Check the label / SDS** for pH, hydrogen peroxide, citrus or orange oil, ammonia, and solvents.
2. **Ask us in writing first**, before using it anywhere, even on a test spot. We will tell you within a business day whether it is safe.
3. **Once we confirm it, test** in an inconspicuous spot and let it dry fully.

A two-minute email costs nothing. Refinishing a building's frames does not.

QUESTIONS — ASK BEFORE YOU CLEAN

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